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THE JOHN WATTS DEPEYSTER
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New York historical society.
Collections

LETTER BOOK
OF
JOHN WATTS

MERCHANT AND COUNCILLOR
OF NEW YORK

JANUARY 1, 1762—DECEMBER 22, 1765

NEW YORK
PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY
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PREFACE

This is the ~~eighty~~^{sixty-first} volume in the series of Collections of The New-York Historical Society. The printing of the Letter Book of the Honorable John Watts by the Society, aside from its importance, is interesting because John Watts's great-grandson and namesake, John Watts De Peyster, made a generous bequest in 1908 to the Publication Fund of the Society, which now bears his name.

The transcription of the manuscript, editing, and indexing, have been done by Miss Dorothy C. Barck, of the Library staff.

Alexander J. Wall,
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INTRODUCTION

The Honorable John Watts, author of these letters, was a prominent man in New York's social, mercantile, and political life, during the three decades preceding the outbreak of the American Revolution. His letters are valuable because of three factors: his alliance by blood, marriage, or friendship with the most important men in the Middle Colonies; his numerous business connections in the West Indies and England, and with the contractors for supplying money and provisions to the British forces in America; and his membership in the Governor's Council. They are for the most part business communications, but written with a facile and lively pen, and generously filled with information concerning the political and economic situation in New York, shrewd observations on Great Britain's party politics and relations to the colonies, news of military and naval events in North America, and piquant gossip about his contemporaries in the city.

John Watts was born in New York, April 5, 1715, old style, according to family notes written by himself, in England, in 1784, and printed by his great-grandson, John Watts DePeyster, about 1854, in a miscellany of biographical and genealogical material relative to the Watts and allied families, which is the basis of this account. His father was Robert Watts, son of John Watt of Rose Hill, near Edinburgh, and brother of Margaret Watt who married Sir Walter Riddell, and who was the ancestress of the Riddells to whom some of John Watts's letters were written. Robert Watts migrated to New York toward the end of the seventeenth century, and became a leading citizen and merchant. He died at New York September 21, 1750, about seventy two years of age. He married, by license dated December 28, 1705, Mary Nicoll, daughter of William (1657-1723) and Ann (Van Rens-

selaer) Nicoll, of Islip, L. I., and granddaughter of Matthias Nicolls, who was Secretary of the Province of New York 1664-1673, Judge, and Speaker of the Assembly of 1683-84. Mary (Nicoll) Watts's maternal grandparents were Jeremias and Maria (Van Cortlandt) Van Rensselaer. Her brother, William Nicoll, was a member of the New York Assembly from 1739 until his death in 1768. See *The Descendants of John Nicoll of Islip, England* (by Edward Holland Nicoll, N. Y., 1894).

By his marriage, in July, 1742, to Ann De Lancey (April 23, 1723—July 3, 1775), John Watts became allied to a large and influential family. She was the youngest daughter of Stephen De Lancey (1663-1741) and of Ann (Van Cortlandt) De Lancey, and granddaughter of Stephen and Gertrude (Schuyler) Van Cortland. Her sister Susan married Sir Peter Warren. Her eldest brother was James De Lancey (1702-1760), Chief Justice, and Lieutenant Governor of the Province of New York, who married Ann Heathcote, Caleb Heathcote's daughter. Another brother, Peter De Lancey (1705-1770), married Elizabeth Colden, daughter of Cadwallader Colden, James De Lancey's successor as Lieutenant Governor. Her brother, Oliver De Lancey (1717-1785), her husband's business partner, married Phila Franks, daughter of Jacob Franks of New York, and sister of John Watts's correspondent, Moses Franks of London.

John and Ann (De Lancey) Watts had ten children, of whom seven survived them and had issue.

- I. Robert Watts, born New York, August 23, 1743; died September 16, 1814. He married Mary Alexander (1749-1831), daughter of William Alexander (Lord Stirling) and of Sarah (Livingston) Alexander. They had two sons and three daughters who lived to maturity, four of whom had children. See "Descendants of James Alexander," by Elizabeth Clarkson Jay, in *N. Y. Genealogical and Biographical Record*, XII, 16, 18-19.

- II. Ann Watts, born New York, September 20, 1744; died at Edinburgh, December 29, 1793. She married April 27, 1769, by marriage license dated the previous day, as his second wife, Captain Archibald Kennedy, R. N. In 1792, he succeeded a cousin as the eleventh Earl of Cassillis, and died in London, December 30, 1794. Their son, Archibald, born in New York, February, 1770, succeeded him as the twelfth Earl, and was later created Marquess of Ailsa. See G. E. C., *Complete Peerage*, Vicary Gibbs, ed., (London, 1913), III, 80.
- III. and IV. Stephen and Susanna, twins, born July 30, 1746. Both died in infancy.
- V. John Watts Jr., born New York, August 27, 1749; died September 3, 1836, and was buried in Trinity churchyard, New York. He married October 2, 1775, his cousin, Jane De Lancey, youngest daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Colden) De Lancey. She was born September 5, 1756; died March 2, 1809, and was also buried in Trinity churchyard, in the Watts vault. They had six sons and five daughters. Their daughter, Mary Justina Watts, married Frederick De Peyster, and became the mother of John Watts De Peyster. See Edwin R. Purple, *The Colden Family* (N. Y. 1876), page 16.
- VI. Susanna Watts, born in New York, February 24, 1750/51. She married, by license dated July 4, 1770, Philip Kearny (1733-1798), and had five daughters and seven sons. See Rev. W. Northey Jones, *The History of St. Peter's Church in Perth Amboy, N. J.* (1924), pages 347-48, 357-64.
- VII. Mary Watts, born New York, October 27, 1753; died August 7, 1815. She married June 30, 1773, Sir John Johnson (1742-1830), son of Sir William Johnson, and had eight sons and three daughters. See *The Papers of Sir William John-*

son, Dr. James Sullivan, editor, (Albany, N. Y., 1921), I, xxxvii-xliv.

- VIII. Stephen Watts, born December 24, 1754. He was an officer during the Revolution in a Loyalist corps, the Royal Regiment of New York, or the "Royal Greens," commanded by his brother-in-law, Sir John Johnson. He married Sarah Nugent, of the Isle of Jersey, and lived in England after the Revolution. They had five sons and five daughters. He died in England, January 20, 1810; his widow, Sarah, died April 11, 1841. (See manuscript legal memorandum by P. A. Jay, in the Society's Watts MSS., vol. X).
- IX. Margaret Watts, born at New York, December 14, 1755; died at Southampton, England, May 6, 1836, according to letters written by her nephews, John James Watts, and Charles Johnson, to John Watts, Jr., dated May 14, and 19, 1836, in the Society's Watts MSS., vol. X. She married Major Robert William Leake, son of Commissary Robert Leake, by his first wife. Major Leake died at Cardiff, Wales, June 15, 1788, aged thirty eight. They had one son, Thomas William, who died in 1793, at the age of eight. It was Major Leake's brother, John George Leake, who left to Robert Watts, son of John Watts, Jr., the property which endowed the Leake and Watts Orphan Asylum in New York City. See *The Family of Leake of Bedlington in the County of Durham*, by John William Bury, (Newcastle, 1854).
- X. James Watts, born in 1756, died in childhood of smallpox.

On November 8, 1752, John Watts, an elected representative of the City and County of New York, was admitted a member of the 27th Assembly of the Province, in which he continued until his appointment to the Council. He took his seat in the Council June 10, 1758, and was

an active member for seventeen years, until the outbreak of the Revolution forced him to leave the colony. While holding office, he continued his mercantile enterprises, alone, or in partnership with his brother-in-law, Oliver De Lancey, or with Henry and John Cruger. A public-spirited citizen, he was interested in the cultural and social progress of the city. He was a founder of the New York Society Library in 1754, and served as a trustee for twenty years. He was one of the governors of King's College (Columbia University), from which his sons Robert and John were graduated. In 1756, he was elected a member of the St. Andrew's Society, and served as its vice-president 1770-71, and as president, 1771-72. He was a charter member of the Society of the New York Hospital, upon its organization in 1770, and was one of its first governors, and its first president, holding that office from 1770 until 1784.

John Watts's town house was a three-story mansion on the north side of Great Dock Street, now Pearl Street, between Whitehall and Broad Streets, with stables in the rear, on Bridge Street. It was completely destroyed in the fire of September 21, 1776. His country home, named Rose Hill, after his grandfather's mansion in Edinburgh, was located on the north side of East 24th Street, near Second Avenue, on a 131-acre farm, purchased in November, 1747, from James De Lancey. The Rose Hill Farm extended along the East River, from about 22nd to 30th Street, and west to Broadway and the old Eastern Post Road. In addition to his property on Manhattan Island, he owned numerous tracts of land in Westchester County, Dutchess County, and elsewhere throughout the state. By the act of attainder passed by the State of New York, October 22, 1779 (chapter XXV, laws of the third session), all his property was confiscated, because of his adherence to the State's enemies. A great part of the confiscated land, including that on Manhattan Island, was repurchased from the Commissioners of Forfeiture, July 1, 1784, by his sons, Robert and John. By a release from Robert and his wife, February 20, 1786, John Watts Jr.

became sole owner of Rose Hill Farm. John Watts's own computations of his losses by confiscation are among the manuscripts owned by this Society (Watts MSS., X), and the title to his Rose Hill estate is recited in *Outline of the Title of Samuel B. Ruggles to his Lands between 15th and 28th Streets* [N. Y., 1834].

John Watts and a fellow Councillor, Roger Morris, sailed from New York on the *Harriot* packet, May 4, 1775, (*Rivington's N. Y. Gazetteer*, May 11, 1775). The act of October 22, 1779, of attainder for adherence to the enemies of the state, included him among other officers of the Council and of the Government. He did not return to the United States after the war, but continued to live in London until his death. His son Stephen, his daughters, Ann Kennedy and Margaret Leake, and a large number of other exiled Loyalists, made a pleasant social group in England, and his kinsmen, the Riddells, were his very good friends. Among the manuscripts presented to the Historical Society with the Letter Book are seventy letters from John Watts to his sons in New York, 1778-1789, and a number of letters from his daughters and sons-in-law and other friends, also to Robert and John Watts Jr., which picture their life in England, and show their continued interest in America.

John Watts died in London, after eight months' illness, on August 15, 1789, at the home of his son-in-law, Captain Archibald Kennedy, in Percy Street, near Bedford Square. He was buried near his friend and kinsman, Sir John Riddell, in St. Olave's Church, Hart Street, London. His illness, death, and burial are described in Ann (Watts) Kennedy's letters of August 17, and September 1, 1789, to her brother Robert, and in a letter from Beverly Robinson dated London, August 31, 1789, which are in the library of The New York Historical Society. His death was noticed in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, LIX, pt. 2, 769, and in the *European Magazine*, XVI, 152. His will, dated July 3, 1789, with a codicil dated July 18, 1789, was proved in London, September 12, 1789. He left generous bequests to each of his seven children, and confirmed to

John Jr. the ownership of the Rose Hill Farm, and to Robert the lot in New York City on which his mansion had stood. An abstract of the will is printed in the *N. Y. Genealogical and Biographical Record*, XXXVI, 116-17.

The manuscript letter book is a volume twelve and one half inches high and eight inches wide, of two hundred and seventy six closely written pages. It is bound in vellum, and covered with coarse, brownish cloth. Attached to the front cover with red sealing wax is an old label, carefully inscribed with large letters by John Watts:

John Watts's
Copy Book of Letters
Begun 1st January 1762
Ended 22 December 1765

At the front of the book is pinned a folded sheet, containing a three-page manuscript index of the addressees' names. Most of the letters are written in clear, regular clerks' script, but some were penned by young or inexperienced writers. John Watts made a number of corrections and additions throughout the volume, and himself wrote twenty-four letters, principally the abstracted ones to General Monckton and James Napier. The names of vessels and the other carriers of the letters which were sent, are written transversely in the left margins, and are mostly in John Watts's handwriting. The manuscript is followed exactly, except that abbreviated words are printed in full, to avoid confusion and the use of special fonts for superior letters.

The letter book was presented to The New York Historical Society in July 1918, by Philip J. Kearny, Esq., a great-great-grandson of John Watts, together with over four hundred legal documents and letters, which formerly belonged to John Watts's eldest son, Robert. In his letter of presentation, dated New Haven, Conn., July 7, 1918, Mr. Kearny stated that the papers had been found in Stockbridge, Mass., among the effects of the late Mrs. Essex Watts (née Mary Kearny), who was a cousin of

the donor's father, Captain George H. Kearny, U. S. N. Essex Watts (1819-1895) and his wife were both great-grandchildren of John Watts. Essex Watts was the son of Robert and Matilda (Ridley) Watts, and grandson of Robert Watts, John Watts's eldest son. His wife, Mary (Kearny) Watts, was the daughter of the Rev. Ravaud Kearny (1791-1844), and granddaughter of John Watts's daughter, Susanna (Watts) Kearny. (See Rev. W. Northey Jones's *History of St. Peter's Church in Perth Amboy, N. Y.*, 359, 367). Another collection of Watts, De Lancey, De Peyster, and other family papers, was given to The New York Historical Society, May 3, 1892, by Gen. John Watts De Peyster (1821-1908), who was a grandson of John Watts's second son, John Watts, Jr.

A number of the letters from John Watts to Governor Robert Monckton, which are printed in this volume from the letter book copies, are printed, from the originals actually sent by Watts, in the Aspinwall Papers, *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, fourth series, IX and X, which include also one letter written by Watts in 1760, seven written by him 1766-69, and one, 1774, as well as a few letters written by William Smith Jr., Oliver De Lancey and Robert R. Livingston, during the period of the Letter Book. Among other contemporary letters of 1762-65, supplementing those of John Watts, are the correspondence of Sir William Johnson (vol. III and IV, published in 1921 and 1925 by the University of the State of New York, edited by Dr. James Sullivan and Dr. Alexander C. Flick, respectively), and the Cadwallader Colden Papers, printed in *The New York Historical Society Collections* for 1876, 1877, 1922, and 1923.

DOROTHY C. BARCK.

*Letter Book of the
Hon. John Watts of New York*

New York 1st Jan: 1762

MR. THOMAS ASTIN,

SIR

Mr: Guillam unable to execute your Orders at New London brought me in person your favours of 20th & 22d Oct: & at the same time Capt: Bragg delivered me the one committed to his care of the 24th Oct: by which he is appointed to take the command of your Sloop Deborah & will return with her pursuant to your Orders. If Mr: Guillam had directed Capt: Lowell to proceed hither with the Sloop as soon as his expectations ended of succeeding at New London, it would have saved a good deal of time, as his journey to this place & my Orders back at this Season must take up a good many days, he got not here till Christmas day & as soon as the next Post set out which was near a week, my directions were dispatched to Capt: Lowell to come hither without delay. He got a Shore it seems going into New London, & was obligd at some Expence to unload above half his Cargo before the Vessel would float. Capt: Bragg tells me she is as to her Sails & Rigging in a wretched Condition & will cost a heavy Outfitt, as to selling her in such a plight it would be in vain to think of it, she would fetch a Trifle. But now for the most disagreeable part of the Affair. As I could not see through your Scheme & found it must labour in all its parts, fain would I have resign'd the managment to Mr: Guillam, but he declind it for the same reason. How will it be possible Sir to remit such a Sum for Mr: Clarke, paying the Insurance to New London & this place which is of itself near three hundred & Fifty pounds, being 10 per Ct. on £ 3315. &

at the same time pay the Bills you have drawn on me, reimburse myself the Money I so chearfully & so long ago advanced for you in the most disinterested way (I could not have done more had I been your Banker) & after all return the Vessel fitted with ever so trifling a Cargo or even without any Cargo at all. I thought when you were pleas'd to saddle me a year & a half ago with the premiums on the Fanny & Peggy to & from New London it was something odd, as surely the Cargo ought to have bore it's own Burthen, but I find by Mr: Guillam's Orders had he sold at New London, the last Shilling was to have gone from me, not even the premium of Insurance to be refunded, but the Ballance to be remitted Home if any remaind, after your most sanguine hopes were gratify'd. What Sir can I think of this return, is it not sufficient to prejudice me against making one Shilling Insurance for the future, I really think it is, and must do myself the Justice to declare has absolutely determind me, what I shall be able to remit on Mr: Clarke's Acct: it is impossible to say, but every Shilling that the before mentiond Demands & Expences leave shall be punctually remitted. I should have judg'd it full as natural, as a hundred Hogsheads of Sugar were going in the Snow so near Britain as to Middlebourg, to have press'd this Adventure less, & to have order'd a remittance across the Channel. And now I mention that Vessel I must Inform you that the Underwriters would not take less than double your premium, & that I forwarded to Mr. Adams one of your Letters to Bristoll & another to London, the day I receivd them, the third goes to morrow in a Ship to Irland. Capt: Johnson does not yet make his Appearance & if he should not arrive within thirty days after your Letters were delivered me by Mr: Guillam no body will underwrite upon him at all. I have withdrawn the Policy on the Snow Charming Polly, Capt: Stetham & recoverd 8 per Ct. amounting to £ 98.16. One per Ct. being stopt according to the Custom of the Office. I have paid your Bill to Capt: Todd for £ 62. Barbados Money at 25 per Ct. amounting to

£77.10 Currancy. Mr: Clarke has undertaken to settle the difference of the five Hhds. of Rum per Chenevard, which puts it out of my power to do it, till I hear from Barbados, 'tis perfectly indifferent to me how it turns. I am to receive with one hand & pay with tother, 'tis impossible for me to render a seperate Sales.

Rum has taken a start lately to 4/9 if very good & high Proof, but whether it will fall or rise is uncertain, the Consumption being very slender at this Season & the Military having mostly taken their flight. Exchange too is very high, 85 per Ct. and likely to rise, nor a Whit lower or less likely to rise at Philadelphia the Ballance is generally pretty well preservd between the two places. I am

Since closing the foregoing Letter by Capt. Todd I find one Capt: Cookson¹ just arrivd from Barbados has sold his Rum for 4/4 per Gallon which it's too much to be feard will be a Standard for the remaining part of the Season, as others arrive.

New York, 2d January 1762

CAPT: FLEMING COLGAN,
SIR

You have inclosd Capt: Todd's Bill of Lading for One Hundred Barrels of Pork on Acct. of Sir James Colebrooke Bart. Arnold Nesbitt, George Colebrooke & Moses Franks Esqs. of London Contractors for Victualling His Majestys Forces in North America. When you get to the West Indies sell it to their best Advantage & remit the Proceeds Home to them in a good Bill or Bills of Exchange on London, As the military Operations among the Islands may enable you to lay out some Money to Advantage It becomes my Engagement to give you a Credit of five hundred pounds Sterling which I now do

¹ Capt. Joseph Cookson, of the ship *Success*, of 16 guns, reached N. Y. from Barbados on Dec. 31, 1761. *N. Y. Mercury*, Jan. 4, 1762, Feb. 1, 1762; *Parker's N. Y. Gazette*, Jan. 7, 1762.

on Sir William Baker Knight in London, who will honour your Bills on my Acct: to that extent.

If you should make any purchases where G: Monckton is nigh you, you may apply to him, or any of his family in my name & they will I am persuaded back this Credit with any recommendation you may want, if by being Strangers both to you & me, the people with whom you deal should require any such thing, which may naturally enough happen. Let the General by all means have the first Offer of what you have for Sale. If you should have occasion to draw, you may take the Proceeds of the Pork, for my use & send the Contractors a Bill on Mr: Baker for the Value. My Compliments to Major Gates or any of the Generals family you may see. I shall do myself the honour to write to General Monckton himself by the Rochester & probably by you too. I wish you a good Voyage and am

New York, 2d Jan: 1762

MR: JOHN CARTER [of Barbados]

SIR

I am favoured with yours of 3d Ult: by Capt: Cookson yesterday, tho' Capt: Rash was so unfortunate as to meet with a disaster that oblig'd him to put into some port to the Southward², as I am Informd, yet no doubt before this can reach you he must either be arrivd or has given you a particular Account of his misfortune which it is really not in my power to do, nor have I time to write to Philadelphia relative to any Insurance made there, which probably must be done, as I do not find any made here. He call'd upon me for the proceeds of the 15 Hhds: Rum from Demarary & I accordingly paid it him. I am obligd to you for the Detail of your

² Capt. Andrew Rash, of the armed brig *Constant Catherine*, bound from N. Y. to Barbados, by way of Philadelphia, put in to Charleston, S. C., on Sept. 27, 1761, after encountering a storm which lasted a week. *N. Y. Mercury*, July 13, 20, 1761, and Dec. 16, 1761.

Transactions, & as the Theatre of Warr is removd from the Northern to the Southern World & in your Neighbourhood too, shall be extremely indebted to you for an early Intelligence of any remarkable Event as our Affections are very much engagd for the Success of the Enterprize, not only as a national Concern, but out of regard to the General & many other Gallant Officers, whom we have the pleasure of being acquainted with & sincerely wish may return to us bless'd with health & Victory. Your Letter from Philadelphia shall be forwarded by the first opportunity, which will be in a day or two. I am
Per Capt. Colgan

New York, 2d January 1762

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD [of Barbados]

SIR

You have herewith Copy of my last of 14th Nov: Your Sloop Little Molly I hope reachd you in due time. Inclosd is an Acct: Sales of the Rum by her Neting £ 700.13.4 & the small Ballance due I will send by this Conveyance (His Majestys Ship Rochester) if I can get it on board & a receipt for it, as she lyes at some distance & has been even there but a day or two. The 8 Hhds: Rum to Shipboy & Henry are not yet paid for, but I beleive very safe. I am

As I find the Rochester is not bound to Barbados I have given your Ballance to Capt: Todd & inclosd is his Bill of Lading for the same being seven half Johanne's.

Per Capt: Colgan or Todd³, Copy per Capt: [blank]

³ Captain John Todd of the sloop *Prince of Orange* cleared from the N. Y. Custom House for Bermuda. *Parker's N. Y. Gazette*, Jan. 14, 1762.

New York 2d January 1762

MR. FRANCIS CLARKE

SIR

By two Conveyances thro Philadelphia I let you know that Todd in the Prince of Orange was at last got here & that I had begun the Sales of the Cargo. In all 15 Hhds: are sold at 4/4, 9 at 4/6, 14 at 4/7 & 6 at 4/9, the remainder no body has enquired for, nor can I possibly judge whether the market will rise or fall. Mr: Astin's Sloop is at N. London with a Load & a Brig is daily expected from Demarary, besides they bring great Quantities of Spirits from England that cost but 15 d. on board & tho. in less esteem than good Rum, yet interferes & must go off. Our Consumption at this Season is very slender & the Tipling Soldiery that used to help us out at a dead lift are gone to drink it in a warmer Region, the place of it's production. Inclos'd is Sales of the Cargo per Chenevard Neting £ 983.10.9. I wish the Market had been better, tho it is not upon the whole very bad. I have remitted your Brother about the Value of this Adventure & £ 300 Sterling on the other by Todd. Exchange is 85 per Ct. & more likely to rise than fall, Philadelphia much the same. I am

Capt: Cookson just arriv'd from Barbados I find has sold his Rum for 4/4.

Per Capt: Todd, Copy per Capt: [blank]

New York, 2d Jan: 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE⁴ Esq: [of Barbados]

SIR

My last was by G: Monckton, except a few Lines thro Philadelphia to let you know that G: Amherst had

⁴Gedney Clarke, Senior, of Barbados, was the son of Francis and Deborah (Gedney) Clarke of Boston and Salem, and brother of John Clarke, of Salem, Mass. H. F. Waters, "The Gedney and Clarke Families of Salem," in *Hist. Coll. of Essex Inst.*, XVI, 271, 276; memorandum by Rev. William Bentley, Salem, Jan. 9, 1818, in *New Eng. Hist. and Gen. Reg.*, XXVI, 294-95.

order'd the Charming Beckie Capt: Scott from South Carolina back again to the West Indies, for which reason I now return the two Letters for him as they are become useless in my hands. I must trouble you to look over the Inclos'd Letter for Mr: Astin, to seal & to forward it to him, if you approve of it, without taking Notice of it to any body, as I would not give any Offence that can justly be avoided. If you think upon perusal I have gone too far I should be obligd to you for stopping it entirely & communicating the facts that may be necessary for him, to know, as coming from me to yourself. I cannot for my Life account for his extraordinary Conduct. We are perfect Strangers & without any recommendation in the World, he has drawn upon me & orderd Money out of my hands for his Wife & Insurances &c as if I had been his Banker, ever since our first Correspondence commenced with the unlucky Sloop Ruby. He now stands indebted to me about a thousand pounds & I have God knows how many Bills & other Expences to pay. The Sloop has on board 85 Hhds: 12 Tierces & 16 Barrels Rum in very bad Order says the Young Man that came in her. she wants a very great Outfitt & must have some trifling Cargo.

On the 20th Oct: he says she should be sold rather than your debt of £1666.13.4 Currency equal to £1282.1.1 Sterling remain unpaid, but the 24th he absolutely hires a Master & sends him in her to take Command of her, as soon as she is deliver'd in order to come back to him & proceed to the Coast of Guinea, she would however have gone but a very little way in paying such a Debt as yours. He has shipt he tells me 20 Hhds: Rum more in another Vessel not arrivd & these two Parcells are to do all this mighty work. What concerns me most is your being the Creditor whose Interest I would weigh with as much attention, as I would my own, but as I never heard a Syllable from you on the Subject, I must beleive the Affair in such a Situation as gives you no concern, could I concieve the Matter otherwise, it would add very much to my uneasiness, but as I have said be-

fore I really am so much a Stranger, that it incapacitates me from forming any Judgment at all, but what arises from the incoherency of Facts, that dont seem to hang well together. I took the liberty to ask your Opinion 26th Aug: last, but have not been fortunate enough to receive an Answer. I cannot get your Bacon brought to Town yet, the Flour by Albouy I hope got safe. We are told your Stock of Provisions in the Islands runs low, but the Philadelphia Men that galloped away to escape the Frost, when they arrive, will bring a considerable Supply. Lumber is very scarce here & like to continue so while the Demand subsists both for the Islands to the Windward & for Jamaica. I have not heard from your Son since he left Barbados, but have wrote to him frequently & made the proper remittances. As you probably may choose to have a View of your little Acct. to see what your Nephew & I have been doing together, it is inclos'd throwing a Ballance of £119.4.11 in my favour. I remain very sincerely

News from your busy Quarter will be now very Interesting. We have both the General & the Governor depending in One.

Per Capt. Todd Copy per Capt. [blank]

New York 13th January 1762

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

Sir

My last was of 28th Nov: by the Harriet Packot which I shall referr to, as it contained little else than the Occurrances of the times, which are now grown old.

If Mr: Fleming Colgan should draw on you Bills from the West Indies to the Extent of five hundred Pounds Sterling on my Acct: be pleased to honour them as I have given him such a Credit, & if you should not have Money sufficient in you hands that is not in the Stocks, which it may be disadvantageous to dispose of, pray ad-

vance the deficiency for me & charge me with Intérest till I can have Notice to repay it.

We have not heard yet of G: Monckton's Arrivale at Barbados. Admiral Rodney was got there with three or four Men of Warr, & four Battalions with Six hundred Highlanders were expected from Belle Isle. Mr: Holmes ⁵ is dead at Jamaica and the Command devolves on Capt: Forrest.

Provisions are very high here, we have been obligd to give 18/ for a good deal of Flour & 80/ for Pork, but they now ask 20/ for the one and 85/ to 90/ for the other. Albany Department is well supplyd and so must Canada be, our chief call is now for the Army under General Monckton, and thank God have got pretty near thro' that too. I am allways very sincerely

The Troops are so draind that General Amherst has not so much as a Centinel.

Per Capt: Lewis,⁶ the Phenix⁷ & Hallifax packet⁸

New York 14th January 1762

MESSRS: LASSELLES & MAXWELL

SIRS

You have inclosd John Mitchell's Bill on John Calcraft dated Louisbourg 26th Nov. No. 79 for £200 Sterling at 30 days sight 87½ per Ct. Exchange.

I beleive the Ballance of Mr: [Gedney] Clarke Junior's Acct: will entitle him to near three Quarters of it, but as five Hogsheads of his Rum remain yet unsold, I cannot tell exactly, however he may make use of that proportion,

⁵ Charles Holmes, Rear Admiral of the Blue, and commander-in-chief on the Jamaica Station, died at Jamaica, Nov. 21, 1761, when the command devolved upon Captain Arthur Forrest, the senior officer. *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; Beatson, *Naval and Military Memoirs*, II, 452-53.

⁶ Capt. John Lewis, of the snow *Belle Savage*, cleared from N. Y. for Bristol. *Parker's N. Y. Gazette*, Jan. 14, 1762.

⁷ The ship *Phoenix*, Capt. Robert Miller, cleared from N. Y. for Bristol. *N. Y. Mercury*, Jan. 25, 1762.

⁸ The Earl of Halifax packet boat, Capt. John Bolderson.

or of the whole, as he likes, & in a little time when I am enabled to settle his Acct: we can apportion it exactly. Exchange is high but not likely to fall, it rather has the appearance of rising. Had there been a probability of a Man of Warr to England in any tolerable time I should have postpon'd this remittance, to have made it in Silver, which would have answerd better, but there is not the least appearance of any such thing. I am very sincerely

Per Capt: Lewis

New York 16th January 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE JUN: ESQ:

SIR

I wrote to Messrs: Lasselles & Maxwell by this Conveyance and remitted them Mitchell's Bill on Calcraft for £200 Sterling the greater part of it I observ'd would belong to you, but I could not tell exactly how much, till I had finish'd the Sales of your Adventure by Todd, which is now Inclosd Neating £917.19.4, as also your Acct: by which it appears that you are entitled to £110.8.4. Sterling of the above Bill.

As the Consumption is very small & most of the Military flown, Rum I imagine will fall, especially if the most slender Supplies arrive.

Yours is in much more esteem than Barbados, a small Cargo of which sold within this week or ten days for 4/1 per Gallon. About £540 still remains outstanding on your Sales, but I hope to give you no trouble about it.

I wish you many happy years and remain

No Account yet of G:Monckton's Arrivale, but Ad: Rodney was got to Barbados.

From some defect in Cooperage, or want of Coopers, your Rum frequently arrives in a very dangerous State

left behind per Capt: Lewis, sent by the Phenix

New York, 16th Jan: 1762

MESSRS: LASSELLES & MAXWELL

GENT:

Since I wrote you two days ago by this Conveyance I have finish'd the Sales of Mr: Clarkes Rum, & now inclose him both that & his general Acct: by which it will appear that his Ballance entitles him to £110.8.4 Sterling of the £200 Bill I then transmitted, the remaining £89.11.8 Sterling you will be pleas'd to carry to the Credit of my Acct: I remain

Per the Phenix, Hallifax packet

New York 19th Jan: 1762

MESSRS: MAXWELL & UDNEY [*of Antigua*]

GENT:

Capt: Samuel Lowell of the sloop Deborah lys now confin'd in Goal here, in consequence of making use of the Credit you gave him on Messrs: Robert & George Udney of London, who have protested Bills to the Value of £480 Sterling, that he drew on them to load the Sloop from Newberry for Demary on Acct: of Mr: Thos: Astin. What will become of the poor wretch God knows unless you relieve him, he is a Stranger & Friendless & must perish in Prison, tho in truth he has done no wrong to any Mortal whatever. The Sterling Sum with 20 per Ct: the Customary damage or re-exchange here amounts to too much for any common friend to risque, or indeed any other Person, unless prompted by some very particular motive, even supposing him not Void of Tenderness & Humanity. I was in hopes the Bills had been protested for want of advice, but it is represented to me otherwise, the want of Effects, how that matter stands you best know, but be it either one way or tother the poor man still feels the Woful Effects & is equally an object of Compassion. the House of Coleman & Barrell at Newberry, who indors'd the Bills may be as much distress'd

as the Poor Master is unless they have strength to bear it, which is not always the case with the Trading People of these country Vilages. They tell me (I wou'd observe) that only £250 Sterling of the Bills have yet found Capt: Lowell, protested, but its suppos'd the rest will find him soon, now he is Anchor'd in Goal. I am Gent:

Per Capt. Tucker,⁹ Copy per Capt. Guilford¹⁰

New York 20th Jan: 1762

MESSRS: LASSELLES & MAXWELL

GENT:

Inclos'd is the Second of Mitchells Bill on Calcraft for £200 Sterling dated 26th Nov: at Louisbourg, £110.8.4. Thereof on Acct: of Mr: Clarke Jun: the remaining £89.11.8 on my own Acct: My Letter of the 16th Inst: I suppose you will not receive by Capt: Lewis as was intended, but by this conveyance, however it became necessary to forward a Second Bill. I am very truely, Gent:

Per the Phenix, Hallifax packet

New York 22d Jan: 1762

SIR WILLIAM BAKER KNIGHT

SIR

This will be deliver'd you by Mr: Peter DeLancey Jun: third Son & Namesake of the Eldest¹¹ of Mr:

⁹ Thomas Tucker, captain of the sloop *Nonpareil*, cleared from N. Y. for Antigua. *N. Y. Mercury*, Jan. 18, 1762; *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, May 27, 1762.

¹⁰ Samuel Guilford, captain of the sloop *William and Mary*, cleared from N. Y. for Jamaica. *Parker's N. Y. Gazette*, Jan. 28, 1762.

¹¹ Peter DeLancey, Sen. (1705-1770), son of Stephen and Ann (Van Cortlandt) DeLancey, married Elizabeth, daughter of Lieut. Gov. Cadwallader Colden. His sister, Ann DeLancey, was the wife of John Watts. Purple, *Genealogical Notes of the Colden Family* (N. Y., 1873), pp. 14, 23.

DeLanceys Children at present living. His father designs him for the Study of the Law & recommends him to your kind advice to be fixt in the most beneficial Way for that End. We have a high Character of a Professor ¹² at Oxford, who they say has brought that Mysterious Business to some System, besides the System of confounding other People & picking their Pockets, which most of the Profession understand pretty well, however this as well as every thing else is referr'd to your better Judgment. My Business at present is at his fathers request to give him a Credit on you, for what may be necessary to defray his expences which I very readily do, & if my recommendation of him to your Countenance & Protection can add any weight to his fathers, who is a Branch of a family you have so long known & exteem'd, I shall beg leave to add that too, & hope he may live to prove a gratefull Object of your kindness & friendship. As the Youth is one of a half a Score Children, it is meant that he be educated with as much frugality as decency & Character will admit of, his Parents hope it may not exceed a hundred Pounds Sterling per Annum at most, however that too I apprehend is entirely referr'd to your self. Mr: DeLancey is not in Business, but resides on an Estate ¹³ of his Own about Twenty Miles from the City. he marry'd a Daughter of our present Lieut: Governour, by whom he has this fine flock of Children. I am allways

New York, 30th January 1762

MR: THOMAS ASTIN

SIR

I referr to what I wrote you by the way of Barbados 1st Inst: thro' Mr: Clarke's hands original & Copy. The

¹² Sir William Blackstone.

¹³ Peter DeLancey inherited from his father "mills, mill houses, mill boat, farm and lands" at West Farms, in what is now the Borough of the Bronx of the City of New York. See the abstract of Stephen DeLancey's will in the *Collections of the N. Y. H. S. for 1894*.

Deborah is since got here & I have sold of her Cargo 16 hhds: Rum, at 4/6 & 3 others at 4/10, all on some little Credit, to enhance the price. It is in general well tasted enough, but the strength nothing equal to Mr: Clarke's, the Casks indeed bear some resemblance to each other, both bad enough to waste a great deal of the Liquor. Yours arrivd in remar[k]able bad Order, after being stranded near New London. Capt: Cookson whom I mentioned in my last to have sold his Rum from Barbados for 4/4 was obligd to take up with 4/1 as some of it was too low Proof. Besides your Order to Mr: Saltonstall for £31.6.5 Lawfull Money Mr: Guillam drew in his favour for £57.16.10 this Currancy & in favour of Nathan Douglas for £30 more all for the Sloops & his own Expences, both which I find by his Orders you agree to pay. He likewise drew on me to Mr: Chew for £32. this Currancy Entry & other Charges accruing on the Sloop, & Capt: Lowell after he come away for £23..5.7 which he will accompt for, Mr: Guillam I shall leave to yourself, he has called upon me for £15 since he got here & Capt: Bragg for £20.2. He is now fitting the Sloop and we expect to get her away about the first of March but her Expend will be terrible.

The Bills you drew to Robt: Parker & the three Seamen amounting to £102.5.11 Currency & the Portage Bill of the Deborah, besides the Masters Wages, to £142.13.1. Lowell poor Man is in a lamentable Situation, he drew it seems £480 Sterling Bills at Newberry on Messrs: Udneys of London by a Credit of Messrs: Maxwell & Udney of Antigo, as he says, the Writing not being here. Coleborne Barrell indorsd these Bills, £250 Sterling are returnd protested & the day he got to this place he was thrown in Goal upon an Action of Six Hundred pounds Costs & damages of Said Protest. He says that as he acted as your Servant & deliverd you the amount of the Bills in Cargo, Your Effects of course become lyable for the whole Damage & rather than lye in Goal (which is not very comfortable at this Season expecially) has taken the Advice of a Lawyer & proposes attaching your Effects

in my hands. What will be the Consequence I dont know but I have fee'd a Lawyer, & the Case now rests with the Judge, whether this Expedient will afford him releif or not. His Case is very hard as he represents it, but what can a person do entirely unacquainted with every Fact that is necessary to ground a Judgment upon. If the Attachment lyes, I shall be obliged to pay the Debt out of the Rum, to prevent farther Expence. To mitigate the Affair I offerd to be bound for half the Debt & give them up the Master to go Home to his family till Matters could be explained, but no Terms would be listned to, a Jot less than the whole Sum, & so I left it to be determin'd by the Bench, whether we are lyabler or no. Immediatly upon the Accident happening I wrote to Maxwell & Udney by two Conveyances to desire they would release the poor Master without a Moments delay, if the Case really was as he states it. Should the whole £480 Sterling come back it will be a sad Story, the Damage or re-exchange being no less than 20 per Ct: by the establishd Custom of this place. Johnson is at last arriv'd safe after having lost his foremast & been at Curracoa, he was spoke with by a Vessel off Capt Hatteras, that had been arrivd near a fortnight, which made us all apprehend some danger. I apply'd to the Insurance Office, they offerd to take the risque for 7 per Ct: which I accepted & got the whole cover'd valu'd at £22.2 per hhd: the same those by the Deborah were. On which Adventure the Underwriters returned me £39.15.7 for the like Number of Hhds: short, at 9 per Ct: the other 1 per Ct: it is the Custom of the Office to retain, so that upon the whole we still remain gainers 2 per Ct:

The chance of Rum's rising or falling is rather too mysterious for my weak Eyes, I cannot see through it, but upon the whole I should incline to accept of any offer by the Quantity from 4/6 to 4/9 for the greater part of yours, reserving some for a rise if the Market should fortunately take that turn. A malt Spirit from England prodigiously interferes with this Business & tho not so much approv'd of, can be afforded greatly

under, & is imported in large Quantitys. I have disposd of the 19 Hhds: & 2 Barr: by Johnson at 4/7 per Gallon, which considering the insufficiency of the Casks the certain Waste & many Accidents attending it, is better than keeping it, (I imagine) for the Advance of a Trifle in the price, even should the Market mend, than which nothing can be more uncertain.

I am calld from writing to give security for Lowell's Debt in Order to prevent all you Effects & Vessel going into the Sheriff's hands, as they would do was the Attachment that is granted to take Effect. I am

Per Capt: Cookson

New York 30th Jan. 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

Since I wrote you 2d Inst: by Capt: Todd of which a Copy followd soon after I am favourd with yours of 30th Nov:

By the reports of Ship News we are taught to beleive that both the Troops from this place & from Belle Isle are arrivd, if it be so we must soon have it confirmd beyond a Doubt & surely then Martineco falls, unless the French Fleet that they say is slipt out of Brest should chance to preserve it.

Admiral Rodney did write to G: Amherst & sent him the List of Ships appointed to act under his Command, which compose a formidable Squadron, and lucky enough it is they do, if the French escap'd Fleet amounts to the Number of Seventeen of the Line as tis confidently reported.¹⁴

¹⁴The list of the vessels under Rear-Admiral George B. Rodney, commander-in-chief of the Leeward Islands station, for the expedition against Martinique is printed in *Parker's N. Y. Gazette*, Jan. 14 and Feb. 11, 1762 and in the *N. Y. Mercury* for Jan. 18 and Feb. 8, 1762. For an account of the expedition, see Beatson's *Naval and Military Memoirs of Great Britain*, II, 515 ff.

I hope you met our young Soldier ¹⁵ well. I dare say keen enough for a Company & if you propose to continue him in the Army, the sooner the better, Rank is not to be lost.

It would have savd you a good deal of thought & writing had Capt: Scotts latter destination come sooner to your knowledge. Mr: Willing & myself were frightned out of our Witts for fear the Ship should fall upon our hands while Lumber is so scarce & dear & not even to be come at for Money, & as to freight from this place it seldom or never offers for Barbados, unless such a casual thing as Bréad for the Navy. I have tryd whether any redress might be expected for Mr: Carter's great Loss sustained upon this Coast, but I find it in vain to think of it here, where the management is parsimonious to a fault, that often raises Complaints, but besides the Applications of this kind are so frequent that they dare not yield to any one, for fear of setting a precedent. The Agent for Transports Mr: Price seemd very well dispos'd when I spoke to him, but at the same time candidly told me it would be Labour lost to attempt it. They go upon this reasoning that every Ship should be ready for Service & that the Owner need run no Risque, the Service will very well afford Insurance. I shall still write to Messrs: Willing & Morris on this Affair, as they are the Principals in it & if any measure can be devisd that has the least prospect of Success Mr: Carter may be assur'd of my hearty Concurrence. His Case no doubt is hard but we have so many as bad or worse, that both we & our Oppressors too grow use to them. If G: Monckton could be of any Service to you I am sure he would do it with pleasure, as it is a humane Case, & no body has a Breast easier affected than his with Actions of Benevolence. I leave you Mr: Astins Letter open again, that you may see new Demands are come upon his Effects & I very

¹⁵ John Clarke Jr., son of John and Ann (Furneau or Furness) Clarke, of Salem, Mass., and so nephew of Gedney Clarke Sen. He became captain in the 46th Regt. of Foot, Oct. 13., 1762. *Hist. Coll. of Essex Inst.*, XVI, 271-72, 275-76; Millan's *Army Lists*.

beleive will sweep off every Shilling, or very near it, that remains in my hands.

One William Howard who is gone in the Merchantile way to deal with the Army became a security in writing for one Edward McCallister for a hhd: of your sons Rum, bought 6th July last, the day he went away, which is about a week ago I sent for the Money & he promised to send it the next day, but did not do it. If you will be so good as to order an Enquiry about him, he can easily be found & has Effects to pay twenty times as much. Inclos'd is an Order upon & a Letter for him. I am with great regard

Capt: Cookson has 2 Barr: fine flour for you. I cannot get the Bacon from the Country.

Per Capt: Cookson

New York, 30th Jan: 1762

MR: FRANCIS CLARKE

SIR

My last was 2nd Inst: Original & Copy directly from hence. I then gave you an Account of the progress I had made in the Sale of Todd's Cargo, of which the Acct: is inclosd Neating £917.19.4 the Sale ended well. I should be glad of the same price for a good deal I have on hand, that just arrivd as this went off. I have remitted your Brother the full Ballance of his Acot: tho' a considerable Sum remains still outstanding as we are obligd to give some Credit to better the Terms, however I beleive all is well

New York, 30th January 1762

MR: WILLIAM HOWARD

SIR

I dont think you acted with a great deal of gratitude or a great deal of Honour to leave McAllisters Debt un-

paid that you first promis'd in writing to see paid & no longer than the day before you left us promis'd to send me the day following. But since you have behavd so I have drawn an Order in favour of Mr: Clarke to whose Son the Rum belongs which I expect you will pay without any delay or expect such Treatment as your Conduct deserves. I am

New York 1st Feb: 1762

MR: JOSHUA HOWELL

SIR

Inclosd is Mr: Mortiers Bill on John Nelson 30th Ult. to repay the two Hundred pounds advanced Doctor Smith for Mr: Delanceys Children. This Expence was rather higher than could be expected & was rather too much to draw out of your hands at a time without any Consideration, however I hope it will be the last, on this score at least & I must endeavour as opportunitys offer to pay you in your own friendly Coin in the meantime beleive me.

I got my Oyl yet, will it do with you now.

New York 1st Feb: 1762

MR: JAMES NEILSON

SIR

I desird you a few days ago to send me up what White Oak hhd: Staves you had, not exceeding three thousand & to let me know what Number I might probably depend upon, in a fortnight or three Weeks time. As I am afraid I shall be press'd for this kind of Lumber I must beg if you cannot supply me yourself, so as to be here in all this Month with about twenty thousand, you would engage them wherever they are to be had & can be delivered within the time upon my giving Orders as they shall be wanted, which I apprehend will be pretty fast after about a week has passed over our heads. Some Heading

may do in the Number, but is earnestly desird that both one & tother should be clear of Sap. I am

If you should chance to see my friend Mr: White pray ask him if he received a Letter from me lately. These Lawyers wont write unless they are paid by the Sheet.

New York 1st Feb: 1762

JOSEPH CHEW ESQ:

SIR

I have your favour to acknowledge of 20th Ult. & shall keep the Value of Gwillims Bill on me for £32 Currancy & Lowells for £23.5.7. for your farther Orders but you will be so good as to send me the Bills in the meantime endorsd for my Vouchers to the Owner.

If Mackrell & Alewives are to be purchased tolerably cheap pray send me about 50 Barrels of the first & 25 of the last providing they can be here this month but the sooner the better & pray let me know what is to be expected. I am

New York 1st Feb: 1762

MR: EZEKIEL FORMAN

SIR

I spoke to your father repeatedly in order to have the small Affair of mine under your Management settled, but have not yet succeeded tho' the distance of time is quite too great. By the Sales 4 Hhds: Rum Neated £50.19.4½ which at 33½ the lowest Exchange is £67.19.1. You remitted me thereon £50 Maryland Money by Bill on your father, which at 6¾ per Ct: Exchange as Dollars regulate is £53.6.8 the Ballance then remaining due to me is £14.12.5. Eight hhds: of Rum were seizd which we agreed to lose equally among us, Seven Hhds: were left behind, the two make fifteen, now as I had three hhds: among them, of course to have three fifteenths or one fifth of the seven hhds: remaining or savd, for

which I desire you would send me an Order on the person in whose Custody they were left, or pay me that proportion if they have accompted to you, without any farther delay. 'Tis a piece of Justice that has been long due to

New York 8th Feb: 1762

MR: JOSHUA HOWELL

SIR

It is a matter of the utmost indifference either to Capt: Waddell (to whom your Bill on me is indorsd) or to myself how you determine about it, for which reason he has referd it to Mr: Wharton to do as you & he like best. If you prefer the Moneys being paid here, than I should imagine the shortest & easiest way is to return Mr: Mortiers Order to Sir

N. B. The above Mentiond Order was return'd, Mr: Mortier return'd me the money & I paid it to Captain Waddell

New York 12th February 1762

MESSRS: SMITH & NUTT

GENT:

Inclos'd is Capt: Smith's Bill of Lading for 19 hhds: Rum which you will be pleasd to dispose of in the manner & at the time you judge most for my Advantage. A considerable Army being in the West Indies we imagine will prevent the usual Supplys coming to the Continent. With respect to returns, if Rice be moderate & the Freight reasonable you may send me the returns in that Commodity, but otherwise I would prefer a Bill on England addressed to Sir William Baker for my use, your Exchange perseveres I think very steadily to seven for one whereas ours fluctuates exceedingly, tis now high, at $87\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct: & rather likely to rise than fall. We are now quite exhausted of rice, for the Contract, if you will send about the Quantity of Two Hundred Tierces it would be

seasonable, consigned to Delancey & Watts as usual Half Tierces are handiest & would do best, but pray let the Casks of whatever size they are, be well constructed & substantial or it will be attended with great Loss to the Contractors. If they have given any general Orders about Insurance you will observe them. I am

New York, 12th Feb: 1762

MESSRS: LASSELLES & MAXWELL

GENT:

Since the foregoing of 14th, 16th, & 20th Jan: I am favoured with yours of 13th Nov: with a postscript of 12th Dec: by the General Wall Packet, two days ago. Mr: Dapwell I take to be in Barbados, he was here last Summer & went to Philadelphia in his way thither. The Letter shall follow him. If your friend now has not forgot his Land that you wrote to me about in the beginning of the Warr I fancy it is becoming valuable, provided the Situation & Quality be good
Per the Hallifax packet

New York 12th Feb: 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE JUN: ESQ:

SIR

G: Monckton we find left Barbados 2d Jan: & landed on Martineco 6th with little opposition, between Fort Royal & St. Pieres. We hope soon to have wellcome Tydings from thence. This hands you a second Sales & Acct: of the Rum by Todd

N. B. Wrote the above date to Sir Will. Baker, mentiond the requisition for Men as last year & my Opinion it woud not be entirely comply'd with, & mentiond the same Acct. of G. Monckton as above to Mr. Clarke

N. B. Wrote also of this Date to Mr. Goldfrap

New York 25th Feb: 1762

MESSRS: WILLING MORRIS & Co.

GENT:

I suppose Mr: Clarke left my Letter open that passd through your hands in Order that you might in particular see the Paragraph relating to the two lost Bills drawn by Lieut: Hall & indorsd by our worthy friend but least you should not have taken a Copy of it I now enclose one which may serve as a Guide in the transaction, if it should fall to your share, Lieut: Hall being out of my reach somewhere in Virginia, or thereabouts as I am told & whether he will return this way or no I am at a Loss to find out. If he should I would give you no farther trouble about it, when he pass'd thro' this I was unluckily unapprizd of it in time. Mr: Clarke imagines some reparation due to Mr: Carter for the loss the Charming Beckie sustaind on her passage from the West Indies hither which he conceives might be obtained by Application to G: Amherst, I have answerd him that it is my Opinion an Application would be quite fruitless, but that I would mention the thing to you, who had the Direction of the Ship when she was forced into the Service, & if it was your opinion to make an Attempt I would heartily concur in the measure, tho entirely against my Judgment, as I am thoroughly convinced of the too parsimonious management in that Sphere. I spoke to Mr: Pryce & he candidly enough offerd his Services, but said at the same time he was pretty well assur'd it would not do. My Compliments to Coll: Byrd. I am sorry to hear he has been unwell. I am

New York 28th February 1762

JOHN RICHARDSON ESQ:

Downing Street Westminster

By the Direction of Coll: Barré I send to your care two Quarter Casks of Wine & a Trunk of Books for which Captain Chambers's Bill of Lading is inclos'd.

As the Colonel informs me you will pay for the Wine I beg you would send Eighteen pounds ten Shillings Sterling for it on my Acct: either to Sir William Baker or to Mr: Moses Franks as may be most convenient. I am

Per Capt: Chambers ¹⁶

New York 28th February 1762

LIEUT: COLL: ISAAC BARRÉ

DEAR SIR

It is with great truth I assure you that your friends felt in this part of the World a very sensible satisfaction at your change of fortune, which you may imagine was the more interesting as your planet had heretofore been so vexatiously illiberal. God grant you health and a long Continuance of it. I apply'd to Lieut: now Capt: Coventry for your Trunk of Cloaths, he delivered it he says to Mr: Aberdeen, who again says that he knows nothing about it nor ever did, this I have informd the Capt: of & there the Matter rests. Nor have I been more successful in my Application to Mr: Cunningham for the Trunk of Books sent to him, by Major Ross, he assures me he never had any such thing in his Custody, so that of the whole Assemblage I was to make, the solitary Trunk in my own hands is the only Article to be found & is on board the bearer Capt: Chambers with the two Quarter Casks of Madeira. Whether it be the Hospitality or Excess of our Folks that has left very little Madeira fit to drink I shant determine, but the Fact is certainly so, however the best the City affords for Sale you have, & I hope may prove tolerable, tho' the price is intolerable Eighteen pounds Ten Shillings Sterling the two, which I have desird Mr: Richardson to pay either to Sir William Baker, or Mr: Moses Franks for me. It has got no good I beleive by being drawn off & Shipt in as cold

¹⁶ James Chambers, captain of the ship *Manchester*, cleared from the N. Y. Custom House for London. *N. Y. Gazette*, Mar. 4, 1762.

Weather as ever you felt, for a few days past we seem to have got to the North Pole. Major Ross took Hogarth with him, all the other Books are as you left them, except the Addition of a few Lieut: Hamilton gave me, the Catalogue is in the Trunk with those annexd to it. Captain Chambers has the Key. Major Hervey has never been from Montreal since you bid Adieu to Canada.

You have my sincere congratulations on the distinguish'd Trust reposed in you by your Country, the discharge of it faithfully & ably I can never doubt, while my present impressions of Coll: Barré remain, but I very much doubt whether I shall be able to furnish one single mite to it, by any information I can give from America, tho our great Continent as you justly observe is likely soon to be the Subject of much deliberation. It is difficult to ascertain Facts, informations are so imperfect & peoples dispositions in general so partial and so unsteady, that ones mind is allways tottering, however I will attempt to stumble over some particulars as well as I can.

If Canada be kept or not kept, I imagine our population will be much the same barring the Disturbances & Evils we may suffer in the latter case, which no doubt will be sensible enough, & seems to me the ruling reason for keeping it, tho others no doubt there are too, such as the safe exercise of an important & increasing Furr Trade that takes off large Quantitys of British Manufactorys, the great Expence that would attend the keeping up of such a Line as is necessary for a Barrier against so restless a Neighbour, & the probability at last that it would bring on a New Warr as we should never be easy together.

Supposing Canada ceded to us, I cannot think it would be safe to trust Quebec & Niagara especially, with Provincials, they are too negligent a kind of Troop for such a Service & upon an Invasion would certainly be found unprepar'd, besides the Colonys themselves would be eternally jarring about Quota's & Supplys. As to what part of the Expence they are equal to, it is impossible for me to say for many reasons, but particularly as I dont

know when the Burthens of the present Warr expire with many of them, including this Province Eastward I verily think their Contributions are as heavy as they can well bear, till their Debts are paid, we are mortgaged all ready to the Year Sixty Seven for I think about forty thousand pounds a year, besides the current annual Expence, Jersey rests much lighter, they raised only a thousand Men, when we raised near Seven & twenty hundred & yet the Number of Inhabitants in that Province is generally thought to exceed this. The City of N York 'tis true weighs heavy in the Scale. Maryland to it's shame has done nothing worth Notice the whole Warr, it's a pity that Province was not compell'd to do their Duty, since they want Spirit to do it of themselves. When one Colony is heavily burthend & another bears no weight at all, the disparity if it does not drive those out that are already in, vastly discourages the increase of one & promotes of course the increase of the other.

If you mean by Customs the Dutys upon Goods imported or exported if I remember right these are all laid by Acts of the Colony, except what is call'd the Sugar Act, which certainly ought to be amended or repeal'd, for as it now stands it only encourages frauds & perjurys & in particular injures the fair Trader. The Customs arising during this Warr to the Colony have amounted to about ten thousand pound Currancy per Annum, the military being exceedingly publick Spirited in the Consumption of strong Liquors. In time of peace it produces four or five thousand, these are at all times carefully gatherd.

The Furr Trade as I take it should have it's natural course, either thro' the St. Lawrence or Hudsons River, as Experience proves it most beneficial and safe, each no doubt will possess some Share from the Efforts & Struggles of its own Inhabitants, & where the largest Capital in Commerce circulates, and the best Supplys of proper Goods are found most probably the largest Share will center. I dont see there are any limitations necessary to the Trade of Canada if we keep it, let it take its fair

chance. The endless Winters & tedious Navigation are Limitations enough.

If a part of Canada only is kept the St. Lawrence seems to be the best bounds, but I imagine if we have Interest to extend ourselves so far, the same Interest would obtain the whole. The Colonys no doubt could defend themselves against meer Canada if the Mother Countrys on both sides would cease to intermeddle, but that cannot be expected, & to struggle unsupported with France would prove an Herculean Labour.

We have an odd kind of Mungrell Commerce here call'd the Mount Trade, a Spanish Port near Cape Francois, the Lawyers say it is legal & contrary to no Statute, the Men of Warr say it is illegal & both take & Condemn them at their own Shops while they are acquitted at others. No two Courts pursue the same Measure. A Stranger to form a Judgment from them would imagine that the Nation in its Jurisdiction had neither Rule Law or probity & yet the Evil is suffer'd to go on without any determination, the Subject is tore to pieces by Robbers, Lawyers & all sorts of Vermin. I never was concern'd in this kind of Commerce myself but I have both blam'd & pity'd some that were.

We have a report here that you have address'd Mr: Prather roughly in the House "a Worthless and a profligate Minister" he has done so much for America, that we dont allow him such Epithets.

Poor Coll: Schuyler ¹⁷ is dying.

Per Capt. Chambers

New York 2d March 1762

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

Mr: Delancey writes to you by this Conveyance respecting Mr: John Barberies Commission for the Col-

¹⁷ Peter Schuyler died March 7, 1762, in the 52nd year of his age. *N. Y. Mercury*, Mar. 8, 1762.

lectorate of Amboy which it seems must be renewd & for which yourself & Sir Peter Warren were so kind as to be his former securitys, I have only to add that I am willing with Mr: Delancey to be a Counter Security for the New Commission as I would willingly serve Mr: Barberie who is the nearest relation in Blood to the family with which I am connected in this part of the World & has a very numerous family. I am

Per Capt: Chambers

New York 2d March 1762

MR: MOSES FRANKS ¹⁸

SIR

I have the favour of yours of 12th Dec: to acknowledge with my Acet: which I shall attend to when I have a little time at first view it appears to me that you have omitted I beleive the very first remittance I made you Cosbys Bill on himself for £20 Sterling.

Alexander Irwin's Bill on you, if he was the Hostage as I take him to be, should have been chargd upon the Effects remitted from Hambro' as both these propertys belong to exactly the same people, as I before advis'd you, Messrs: Crugers Hunter & myself. Instead of a peace they tell us from all Quarters a Spanish Warr is breaking out, the farthest way round according to the old adage may be the nearest way home. With respect to Intelligence from Martineco tho' it must come late to you, I send inclosd the latest we have which has not a bad Aspect it came this Moment from Philadelphia by the Post. I am very sincerely.

Per Capt. Chambers

N. B. Wrote to Mr. Kilby by this Conveyance dated 27th or 28th Feb. & to Mr. Goldfrap of this Date.

¹⁸ Moses Franks, of London, the second son of Jacob and Abigail (Levy) Franks of N. Y. *Pub. Amer. Jewish Hist. Soc.*, IV, 190 ff.; XI, 182; XVIII, 213-14; XXV, 78-79.

New York 19th March 1762

HENRY LIVINGSTON ESQ:

SIR

I beg you would settle with Pinkney for me whatever is due for either Rent or Improvements sold, the latter is secure as it is upon my own property. If Bell inclines to purchase you will be pleas'd to let me know it & what he will give. I should likewise be glad to know how long Schowten has been upon that Lot, when the Rent commences, & what it is. As to the Dispute with Outwater, you will be pleas'd to speak with those that are most intimately concern'd with us & we will settle it, either by a Tryall or by reference as may be most adviseable. We have sign'd an Agreement which is to be executed by the others concern'd in the same Title to bear the Expence equally. You will speak to Van Benschowten (I think you call him, our next Neighbour) about it.

If Pinkney cannot pay the money, I believe it will be necessary for us to take his Bond with proper security adding what is farther due with the Bond you already have. Bell I think told me he had reserv'd my share of what the improvements sold for in his hands. Pinkney may have the whole giving good Security if you think proper.

New York 22d March 1762

MESSRS: MAYNE BURN & MAYNES

GENT.

Inclos'd is a Letter from your Attorney Mr: Duane which gives you an Exhibition of your Affair with Mr. Thompson, to which we have have little to add but that the Advertisement sent to Capt: Kennedy by his father wanted an Explanation very much as the poor Dividend mention'd by Mr: Duane proves. The truth is the Subscribers, some from easiness of Temper, some from inadvertency, & some from inclination sign'd a pompous Bubble that had little or no other meaning in it, than to

gild over the Transaction as a future foundation for the Debtor to build upon. I am for Messrs: Crugers & myself

Provisions & Lumber of all kinds are too dear to Ship without the greatest encouragement.

Per Capt. Longs Scooner

New York 27th March 1762

MR: SAMUEL CARTER

SIR

I duely receivd both your favours by Capt: Todd and executed the Contents in all its particulars. The Cargo turnd out I beleive better than any other has or will do the whole Season, in point of Price & the Quality too was very good, the Proof high which is a recommendation absolutely necessary at this Market. What I mean by high Proof referrs to common Rum, for Spirits do not in general sell so readily nor so much to Advantage. The 52 Hhds: with the disadvantage of dead Freight &ca. & with the greater disadvantage of terrible bad Vessels to contain the Liquor Neted £917.19.4. It is surprizing to us sometimes that one half the Cargo is not lost in such a wretched Condition do the Casks frequently come a shore. Rum is become a disagreeable Burthen on hand constant Supplys & quite unexpected coming daily in from the Eastward & what adds to the Evil at this Season when the new Crop approaches people buy very sparingly.

I should very chearfully have assisted Messrs: Willing & Morris in an application for redress for the Loss your Ship Charming Beckie sustained on her passage from the West Indies hither but the Charter party was so directly against us & the Managment of Affairs here so extremely parsimonious that neither of us thought it adviseable to make a formal Application. I beat about the Bush, but found it entirely useless they will not open a Door that would let in a Torrent of Solicitations upon them. I am

New York 27th March 1762

MR. JOHN BERMINGHAM

SIR

I am favoured with yours of 9th Nov: but too late to stop the Axes & Bills which for fear of a Disappointment I had got made at Philadelphia & were delivered to Capt: Wingood a Master of Mr: Pueches to whom I likewise paid there by his Order the Ballance of your Acct: being 392 10/11 Spanish Dollars equal at 7/ as they pass in Philadelphia to £146.19.4 & here at 8/ each £156.15.3 this Currency. The Acct: I sent to Mr: Puech with a Sales of the Rum Neting £206.5.3. with a desire that he would forward it to you, & in July I had before sent two Copys by different Opportunitys to Mr: Clarke's care to forward from Barbados some of which no doubt you have receivd with the Letters that attended them. I am

New York 30th March 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

I yesterday received your favour of 7th Feb: from Salem, & am extremely obligd to you for your Intelligence, but a day or two before arrivd an Express from G. Monckton after the glorious Affair was all over, which gave us the highest satisfaction. He mentions to me your Scheme but as I take it for granted to be now all at an end little will be necessary to say on the occasion, but that I should not have had nor still have any objection to be concernd in it, if they sell reasonable which I cannot imagine they will as things are represented to me. For this market they must be young the younger the better if not quite Children, those advanced in years will never do I should imagine a Cargo of them none exceeding thirty might turn out at fifty pounds a head gross Sales. Males are best. Such a Number as you mention we cannot easily vend from fifty to a hundred would run high enough, but Virginia could take off a great

many. Our Duty is four pound a head from the West Indies forty shillings from Africa. New Jersey pays none at all for which reason the Master might lay a mile or two below the Town & send up word. I received no Letter from you by either Cookson or Watson that of 30th Nov: came by way of Philadelphia. I am sorry common prudence forbids me to oblige you on the remittance Mr: Astin Orders. I have lately received an intelligence from Messrs: Maxwell & Udney of Antigua that appears too well grounded to suffer me to repose any Confidence in him for which reason I have stopt the Vessel & Cargo that were just on the point of departing,¹⁹ by which I should have been in Advance Six or Eight hundred pounds without remitting one Shilling on your Acct: even after all his Rum is sold of which I have between Sixty & Seventy hhds: a Drugg on hand & am in Advance for every Gallon of it & more even I permit the Sloop to return to him empty so that I am really at a Loss what to do but a few hours shall determine it No Consideration would tempt me to undergo again such perplexity as I have sufferd in this unintelligible inconsistent Transaction, which in its Nature was attended with unnecessary Expench has met with many untoward Accidents & at best was never practicable. With regard to yourself Sir you may be assurd I will at all times do whatever the Laws either of Justice or friendship can require. By Capt: Cookson I sent you an Order on one Will: Howard for a hhd: of your Son's Rum he stood engagd for, I am now giving another Order to one Mr. Low bound to Martinique directly in case you had not received it, the Sum is £26.7.3. I had long before remitted the whole Amount of that Adventure while a considerable Sum remaind outstanding, but all is come in since, except that and another, which I never intended troubling him about. Hall has not been here. I wrote again to Messrs: Willing & Morris concerning your Affair & they tell me

¹⁹ The sloop *Deborah*, Capt. Joseph Bragg, was reported cleared from the N. Y. Custom House, for Essequibo and Africa, in the N. Y. *Mercury*, March 29, 1762.

Coll: Hunter is settling it in Virginia, so that I beleive among us it will be finished at last. I am allways

Our Gov: is uncertain I find when he returns we want him back again things are not so well as could be wish'd in the political Body.

New York 3d April 1762

MR. JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

I received by the way of Philadelphia your favour of 11th Jan: informing me of Albouys Arrival & I since hear Todd got safe too with the Ballance of your Acct: Rum rise once faintly but it soon got down again, & is returnd to its former Standard of about 4/ per Gallon.

I am sorry the heading provd so indifferent & wonder how the Officer could pass them or your Captain receive them after the strict charge I gave.

I must be content with the Price your Market afforded for my Pork, I did not ship it with great prospect of Proffit but principally to steady & forward the Vessel that became an Eye Sore to me by her long delay. I am

New York 5th April 1762

MR: JOHN WILCOCKS [of Philadelphia]

SIR

I return you the Papers relating to the Snow Charming Polly as they can be of no use to me.

Mr: Astin some time ago directed me to withdraw the Premium saying that the Voyage was alter'd, which I accordingly did, he said at the same time that if the Underwriters would not withdraw the Premium he would make the House with whom he was concernd at St: Christophers make it good to him, for they had promised him to give me Advice in time that the Voyage had been so alter'd, but I savd them both that trouble. His Mode

of Business I must freely own is too mysterious for me, nor is it in my Power to advise you how to come at your Money for the protested Bill, this I can tell you however tho it is with concern, that yours is by no means the first Bill of his return'd protested, & that remains unsatisfy'd. At present he himself is on his Estate at Esequibo. I never in my Life was so perplex'd with any man's Correspondence as I have been with the small Share of his, that has fallen to my Lot by meer Accident, nor would I pass thro' the same Scene again for any Consideration. I am

New York 7th April 1762

MESSRS: MAXWELL & UDNEY

GENT:

I was stunn'd a few days ago with your favour of 22d Feb: in answer to mine of 19th of January. It arriv'd happily for me while it was yet in my power to retract a Confidence I was contrary to my Judgment reposing in Mr: Astin. The Sloop was loaded & clear'd for Esequibo by which I should have been in Advance Six or Eight hundred pounds & been left to seek for it I suppose as you are. Immediately upon the receipt of your Letter I chang'd the Scene, took the Cargo upon my own Acct: & sent the Vessel to Barbados as I had a power to do, to the Address of Mr: Clarke, who had a very considerable Claim upon the Adventure in my hands, not a penny of which I was able to satisfy after Lowell's affair came to be litigated. His Attorney attachd the Cargo upon which I was oblig'd to advance £630. Currency to make good the £280 Sterling return'd protested, the remaining £200 Sterling we have heard nothing of. I cant but pitty Lowell he could not in the Nature of things know what pass'd between Mr: Astin & you, otherwise he would not for a trifling Consideration have involv'd himself in such distress, & I am sorry to tell you the Lawyers here make no doubt of your being accountable to him for the Consequences. Tho Mr. Astin may have deceiv'd you, be-

cause it was upon your Credit he drew. I wish with all my Heart it was in my Power to be of any Service to you, I would do it with a great deal of pleasure, but it really is not. I have been constantly in Advance for Mr: Astin, was when the Sloop arriv'd about a thousand pounds, am now above fifteen hundred, with so moderate a share of Effects to pay it, that I was oblig'd to take a Bill of Hypothication upon the Sloop, for what I judgd might be the Ballance, & to leave Mr: Clarke who has the Debtor nearer to him & knows more of his Affairs than I do, to take his remedy another way.

Lowell is gone to Newberry but if the £200 Bill should find him protested, every thing will be as bad as ever again. He has already suffer'd in Expencc more than he could well bear. What troubles does a Man of Negligence or bad Morals bring upon every Body he has to do with, & often the most upon those who deserve them least.

After yours, came to hand a Letter from Mr: Nibbs & another from Mr: Barrell Jun:, both of the 8th February, but both of a very different Complexion from yours, had I receivd them first, they would not have savd me. Pray let Mr: Barrell know that his fathers Attorney (Stephen Parker) was gone & that I forwarded his Letter by the Post.

New York 3d April 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

The foregoing of 30th Jan: & 30th March are Copys of my last. When I wrote the latter in a hurry I forgot to acknowledge the receipt of your favours of 8th 12th & 26th Jan: & to return you many thanks for your wellcome Intelligence. Upon receipt of yours of 26th Jan: I waited on Mr. Amherst to have some Conversation upon the Subject of Provisions, & found him prepar'd by a Letter from you.

The Rochester soon after arrivd safe at Martinique with her Convoy which carryd a stout Supply & after

them saild a large Victualler, calld the James & Henrietta, under Convoy of the Lyon armd Ship that carryd a considerable addition for a single Vessel, however the General has orderd & soon will be dispatched a large[r] Supply still, so that I hope upon the whole our gallant fellows will be well fed. You need give yourself no farther trouble about Howards Debt I have found a person here that has agreed to pay it in a few Months.

This will barring the Danger of Sea & Enemy be deliverd you by Capt: Joseph Bragg of the Sloop Deborah belonging to Mr: Astin. Upon considering the perplexd Circumstances I was in, I could think of no better Method than to take the Cargo to myself, a Bottom'ry Bill on the Sloop, for what may be about the Ballance of my Acct: & send both to you to do as you judge right & fit on all Sides; both as I understand you to be Mr. Astin's friend & as it is proper you should know the grounds upon which I proceed, I send you a Copy of Messrs: Maxwell and Udnys Letter to me & another to Capt: Lowell which paint things in such abominable Colours that I am determind to settle my Affairs with that Gentleman while it is in my Power, & decline any farther intercourse least I should hereafter be dragg'd into a repetition of these vexatious Inconsistancys.

He first proposed that I should fit the Sloop properly for a Guinea Voyage credit him for a Loading & send her to Esequibo, she was accordingly so fitted a Cargo on board (not all that she has at present) & on the point of sailing, when I received Maxwell & Udnys Letter which put an end to that Scheme.

If this proposal faild I was next to take a freight for Barbados if such a thing could be obtaind, & if that faild too & nothing better offerd I was even to return her to him in Ballast, so intent was his mind upon the Guinea Voyage after he had persuaded Capt: Bragg to undertake it, who has a thorough experience in that Business. There is a kind of an intimacy between Messrs: Maxwell & Udney & Capt: Bragg, & as soon as he came to understand their representation of Mr: Astin he trembled to think

of returning to Esequibo upon Mr: Astins strength only, for fear of being shut up there, & both disappointed & deceivd too as he had been before, this led him willingly to throw himself upon your protection, in hopes that something more effectual might be done than be beleiv'd Mr: Astin could carry through.

I have taken the liberty to address the Cargo to your Order & to desire that you would appoint some person to dispose of it for my use. Mr: Gwillim apprehends that you are inclineable to serve him in a thing of this kind if it be so as the poor young man has been sent of a very sleeveless Errand I have no objection to it, but it is just as you please. Mr: Astin tells me to furnish him with twenty or thirty pounds but in the Orders to him, he is to bear his Expences till the Sloop sails. However, as he wanted some warm Cloaths I have been obligd to furnish him with a little more. Capt: Bragg was to have five Shillings per day from his Arrival at New London till he took Command of the Sloop which was 20th Jan: afterwards common Wages & privileges & over and above I was impowerd to advance fifteen or twenty pounds as an encouragement to proceed the Voyage Mr: Astin's heart was so much set upon. I have paid him in all £83.2 of which £37.2 per Receipt is expended on the Sloop so there remains £46. to accompt for.

If any of the Cargo be improper for Barbados or the Market better at Martinique, I presume it may be easily conveyd thither, tho a Trifle I can trust to G: Moncktons friendship if it will be of any use.

I send you a State of Mr: Astins Acct: as I send it to him that you may see how things have been manag'd. Rum has been falling ever since I closd the Sale of your Son's, it is selling now for 4/ upon the Approach of the new Crop constant Supplys have tumbled in from the Eastward, some from the West Indies & the English Malt Spirit is the Devil.

After pressing Mr: Astin a long time for the Proofs of Loss on the Snow from St: Christophers to Demerary he tells me that her Voyage was alter'd & that I must

withdraw the Premium, which was done, but the truth is she was never condemn'd & therefore there could be no Proof of Loss. All his Schemes are too fine spun & entangled for me I like a plainer Path than he seems to pursue.

Pray be so kind as to forward the two inclos'd Letters for G: Monckton, you have likewise a few of our latest Prints, but I apprehend they can contain little new as they chiefly advert to the Spanish Warr, which was proclaim'd to day here. Capt: Bragg has on board two Casks Containing 23 Hams Wt: 269 lb. cured by the same Person who supplyd me with the Bacon you so much commended. My friend Mr: Allen is remarkable for good Bacon at Philadelphia. I desird him to procure & send you two Dozen Hams which he writes me are ready & shall be sent by the first good opportunity. Lieut: Hall & Coll: Hunter are both here I find by the latter some Conversation has passd between them about your Business, but they cannot settle the Damage, the Lieut: thinks his Case hard, the Exchange he receivd being very low & besides as he has allways been ready to pay the money he does not think himself lyable for the loss of time that has attended the miscarriage of the Bills, that being a Risque inseperably connected with the Person who remits them. I shall find him out & settle the Affair for you in the best manner I can, delays are dangerous.

The Bill of Hypothication is inclos'd drawn in the Customary way but I would not have Capt: Bragg suffer any inconvenience or Loss therefrom, the Sloop could not have proceeded without it, as I could repose no Confidence in Mr: Astin & it is meant meerly to make her lyable.

I have said nothing about the Remittance of my Effects as you may be in Cash & have only to say, that I leave it to yourself to give Bills on London or Rum, or any thing else the preference with as much freedom as if they were your own. Just as I was finishing this Letter, I am informd by Mr: Willcocks of Philadelphia that

Mr: Astin's Bills for the purchase of his Snow are return'd protested amounting to £455 Sterling. He desires my Advice how he is to come at his money, which I have freely answerd I do not know how to give him, this is worse & worse & if Facts are justly stated it is meer robbery.

Tho Necessity has compell'd me to take the Cargo to myself I leave it to you to settle the freight as I would by no means be my own Carver, the Hoops &ca. upon Deck should pay no freight at all if they are lost & but a very moderate one if they get safe as their Situation puts them in such Danger. We now give to Jamaica between Seven & Eight Pounds per Ton for Cask Goods & Nine pounds for Staves where the Danger is ten times greater & the Money worse.

The Mate hearing some Whispers of Mr: Astin from whom I know not, would not proceed the Voyage till I become bound for his Wages least he should be left in the lurch at Esequibo, be pleas'd therefore to let Capt: Bragg discharge him if he cannot be secure & I must pay his Passage back. excuse the trouble what a Voyage has this been. If upon winding up the Sales of Mr: Astins Rum any Ballance should become due to him, which I dont expect, as the price is so low & the demands so languid, I shall remit it to England on your Acct: according to the Original Plan, & in the mean time with respect to yourself as I have already said I am ready to consent to any thing that friendship or Justice can require but I cannot repose any Confidence in Mr: Astin after what has happened. I have agreed to take £145 Sterling Bills for Mr: Halls Debt to you, Upon the first Suspicion of a Protest which unfortunately he says proceeded from the Death of a kind relation at that Critical time, Money was lodgd in Virginia to answer the Demand & it seems has lain there ever since from whence he inferrs the miscarriage of the Bills to be no Advantage whatever to himself And in the purchase he was a very great sufferer, he got only ninety five pounds Halifax Currency for a hundred pounds Sterling which

reduces the £140 to £133 exactly, a Dollar at Hallifax being 5/ it amounts to 532 Dollars & those at 8/ here to £212.16 this Currancy. The £145 Sterling at 90 per Ct: as Bills are held yeilds £275.10. Coll: Hunter seemd very sanguine for this Accommodation, the Mans case pretty hard & many difficultys might have been started, so I thought it best to close. Yours

New York 7th April 1762

CAPT: JOSEPH BRAGG

SIR

Agreable to Mr: Astins Orders I send his Sloop Deborah under your Command with a Cargo on Freight to Barbados which you are to deliver by Bill of Lading to Gedney Clarke Esq:

Mr: Astin has mentiond no body at Barbados to me to whom I should Address the Vessel you therefore, I should imagine cannot do better than to apply to Mr: Clarke, who is his Acquaintance & friend & will no doubt do every thing that is proper on the occasion. I wish you a prosperous Voyage & remain

New York, 10th April 1762

MR: THOMAS ASTIN

SIR

A few days after the foregoing was wrote I was obliged to pay £ 280 Sterling Protested Bills to save your Effects from the Officers hands from whence they never might have returnd as has allready been the case with several others in like Cases, the Officer being Expensive & Insolvent but granting the Case otherwise the poor stupid Master when the Affair came to be argu'd & your Orders considerd appeard to have great equity on his Side & deservd Compassion. What is become of the remaining £ 200 Sterling we have yet never heard but it will be

sufficient to ruin the miserable drawer & perhaps the Indorser too tho have both been at a considerable Expence in what has allready happen'd without receiving a farthing Benefit from the re'exchange which is reapd by others to whom the Bills were sold.

After every plague & inconvenience that could possibly occur I had just got the Deborah fitted & loaded for Esequibo when I receivd the inclosd Letters from Maxwell & Udney in answer to that I wrote them & upon the back of this schocking representation came a loud complaint to me from Mr: Willcocks that £ 455 Sterling Bills you drew for the purchase of his Snow are returnd protested & desiring to know how he should come at his Money.

These representations united you must naturally imagine must destroy all Confidence, I therefore took the Cargo to myself such as it was ill sorted enough for Barbados, added a few Provisions to it & sent the Sloop there as I had power to do on Freight, which Freight I have left to Mr: Clarke to settle as I was unwilling to be my own Carver. She saild a few days ago with a fair wind & glad I was to get rid of her for I expected every hour another Attachment either for the protested Bill that we were apprehensive of, or from Mr: Willcocks who certainly would not have let her depart.

Capt: Bragg when he heard of Messrs: Maxwell & Udnys Complaint, of whom he has a great opinion, was too much terrifyd to venture into your obscure part of the World, where he might be lockd up again God knows how long, however that obstacle was removd by sending the Sloop to Barbados. Both he and Mr: Gwillim have had more Money than I would have advanced them if it could have been possibly avoided, but I must keep them out of Distress while they were acting in pursuance of your ill digested Plan, happy would it have been had Vessel & Cargo both been entirely wreckd on the Shore near Masons Island, where she was stranded, but it seems they were reserv'd for another fate. The Outfitt from hence has been monstrous as I knew it would the Vessel

coming here a meer wreck, with scarce any thing but the Hull & Sparrs worth a groat. I took pains enough daily to caution Capt: Bragg against all unnecessary Expence & he as often assur'd me there neither was nor should be any, every thing went so cross & vexatious that he grew quite sick of his Engagment. There is no manner of Demand for Rum the British Malt Spirits & repeated Supplys from N. England have renderd it unsaleable & made the Price rather nominal than any thing else, some late Parcells have sold for even 4/ per Gallon how I shall get rid of yours before the New Crop comes in is beyond my Conception. Since my last I have sold only a Dozen hhds: all on some Credit for 4/9 down to 4/4, about Eight it took up to fill the rest when the Cargo was delivered of which the Insurors have accounted for all that could be ask'd them.

The whole Cargo amounted to about a hundred hhds: as near as we could reckon computing the Tierces & Barrels in proportion to their measure. Had the Prooff been higher, little would have remaind on hand at this time but in that it fails which is the most essential Characteristick here. If the whole Neats between Seventeen & Eighteen hundred pounds it is full as much as I expect which leaves as you will observe by you Acct: inclosd about four hundred pounds due to me for which I have taken a Bottomry Bill on Vessel & freight & sent it to Mr: Clarke. I beleive I have sent you all the Papers that are necessary for your information of an unfortunate vexatious, expensive Voyage that has made every Body that was concernd in it sick of it a thousand times over, & will give satisfaction to no one. They are noted particularly at Foot. As the Voyage was alterd we thought it best to send the plantation Utensils & the Shot &ca. for the Cannon by the bearer Johnson.²⁰ I am

Your Acct: Curr: Sales of Rum per the Guadaloupe

Mr: Gwillims Receipt, Capt: Braggs ditto, Outfitt of

²⁰ Capt. Jabez Johnson, of the brigantine *Guadaloupe*, which cleared from the N. Y. Custom House for Essequibo. *N. Y. Mercury*, April 12, 1762.

the Sloop, Acct: of Expences relative to her, not included in Capt: Lowells Acct: Invoice & Bill of Lading per the Guadaloupe.

Capt: Lowells Acct: at N London, at Masons Island & General Acct:

Portage Bill from Esequibo to Barbados

Maxwell & Udneys Letters to Capt: Lowell & me

New York 14th April 1762

COLL: JOHN HUNTER

SIR

Inclos'd is Ezekiel Forman's Letter & Order to Mr. Sam Farmer to pay me the Produce of the Seven hhds. of Rum I was mentioning to you, which I beg you will either be so good as to send to me your self or get Mr. Farmer to do it. I am

New York 20th April 1762

CAPT: SAMUEL LOWELL

SIR

I am really concernd for your sufferings in the Service of Mr: Astin, but it is entirely out of my power to remove them. By paying the protested Bills to Mr: Barrells Orders I became in Advance above four hundred pounds & had no other remedy but to take a Bottomry Bill on the Sloop for my security, which I am afraid will be but a slender one. How Mr: Astin manages I will not pretend to explain, for it's beyond my Depth, but this I am clear in, that he should not drag innocent people to their ruin into his mysterious plan of Business. If the two hundred Pounds Sterling Bill does not come back protested you are safe enough as the rest are paid. I have wrote to Mr: Astin the whole state of the case & am

New York 23d April 1762

MR: WILL: CAMPBELL

SIR

By the Billingsgate Capt: Ames I receivd the fifty one Barrells of Tarr, but to a wretched bad Market. It was then offerd in plenty at 12/ per Barr. (since under) I therefore judgd it most for your Interest to get rid of it before any Charges accrud, which the price could by no means bear, & sold it to Henry White, for 12/ amounting to £ 30.12 the Freight deducted 6/ per Barr. leaves £ 15.6 which I have pass'd to your Credit & was all I could do, to prevent a bad Adventure, tho small, from becoming worse. I am

New York 29th April 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

The foregoing went by Capt: Bragg who I hope is safe arrivd. Mr: Hall has been in the Country some time, which has prevented my settling your Affair with him. According to Custom I find I have dated my Letter from N. Y. but the truth is I am in my friend Allen's Counting house at Philadelphia on a short Excursion with some of my military Acquaintance. We heard from Martinique so lately as 20th March, & yesterday a Vessel arrivd from Antigo, in Eighteen days, but nothing new.

If Ad: Pocock & Lord Albemarle come to the West Indies we hope & beleive their Business is with the Havanna. Transports are getting ready here & Troops preparing to rendezvous, but for what Service is not known.

I wrote you to Martinique to the care of one Mr: Low, least G. Monckton should be absent. My Letter I suppose met you there, as I find you had pursu'd your Intention of paying our new Conquest a Visit. Nothing else occurs but to offer you my sincere respects & to subscribe myself

New York 9th May 1762

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

I send these few Lines a random shot to Philadelphia in order to let you know the *Little Molly*²¹ arrivd a week ago when I was out of Town, & has deliverd her Cargo safe, but is not ready to take in, however, was she ever so ready I apprehend an Embargo on all Provisions will entirely disable me from executing your Orders. If this happens I will endeavour to procure you a Government Freight of Provisions to Martinique that the Vessel may not lye idle, nor you be disappointed of her farther intended destination.

Pork is here scarce at £ 5 Philadelphia dearer, Flour 18/ Ship Bread 17/6 White Oak hhd: Staves £ 7.10. I have sold 6 hhds: of your Rum at 4/3 & 4/4, no body has made an offer for the whole, 4/ would be the highest on some Credit. I am in great haste. My small Accts: are all right, you have my thanks for your kind present. Via Philadelphia, per the *Cornelia*²² & Capt. Albouy

New York 9th May 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

Capt: Albouy tells me you was returnd from Martineco, but I take it for granted have not succeeded in your Scheme for purchasing Negroes, nor indeed any thing else, by the best Accounts we can get. My last was from Philadelphia of 29th Ult: with a Copy of another of the 3d of the same Month by Capt: Bragg. Upon conversing with the General on the present State of our Exportations, I find to prevent Provisions getting to the French & Spanish Fleets he has orderd an Embargo

²¹ The sloop *Little Molly*, Capt. Richard Albouy, arrived at N. Y. from Barbados. *N. Y. Mercury*, May 3, 1762.

²² The sloop *Cornelia*, Capt. Daniel Lawrence, entered outward at the N. Y. Custom House for Martinique, and the sloop *Little Molly*, Capt. Richard Albouy, entered out for Martinique, in the King's service. *N. Y. Mercury*, May 10, 17, 1762.

throughout the Provision Colonys so that every thing we imagine must rise abroad for a time. Whether this will get out from Philadelphia I know not, but whether it does or no I shall soon write again by the way of Martineco and am allways

Rum 4/ to 4/3. Will I beleive Rise towards fall if the Warr continues.

New York 10th May 1762

MR: COLBORN BARRELL [of Newbury, Mass.]

SIR

I would have answered your favour of 16th Ult: sooner but have been absent from the City near a fortnight. The Original of Mr: Nibbs's Letter had some time before got to hand, with another I forwarded to you from your Brother, but I receivd from Messrs: Maxwell & Udney themselves about the same time a Letter of a very different Complexion. They dont pretend that Capt: Lowell overdrew but that the Bills were protested because Mr: Astin did not pursuant to his Promise lodge Effects in England to pay them, however be that as it will I am still of opinion, strictly speaking they are accountable & not he (to any Body but them) for the Consequences, as they gave the Credit, yet as I look'd upon it as an equitable case I sufferd Capt: Lowells Attachment to take place, which otherwise might have been easily obviated, & by so doing I brought myself about four hundred pounds in Advance, took an ill assorted Cargo to my own use, a Bill of Hypothication on the Sloop, as the best security I could obtain, & from necessity was obligd to send her to Barbados, instead of Esequibo, least she should get out of my power before I was paid. How Mr: Astin will relish all this the Lord knows, his own frantick Schemes have brought it upon himself, but still I certainly ought to hear from him before I can in Justice to myself deliver upon Mr: Parkers Obligation for what relates to the Attachment. You may still be assurd I shall yeild up no point to him that Justice does not

require or the Law compell, which are not allways quite the same. I am

New York, 11th May 1762

HENRY LIVINGSTON ESQ:

SIR

I should have been glad of an Answer to my Letter of 19th Dec: deliverd you here to know what is done with Pinckney &ca. Outwater I am informd is tresspassing again, which is very dirty after the fair proposals made in my said Letter deliverd you as above mentiond. It would be kind to let Mr: Delancey & me know what he can mean, as we are willing to submit either to a Reference or a Tryall

The Bearer, Jacob Teachout I have agreed should have Van steenbergs Farm, provided one third part of the Improvements & what Rent may be due is securd to me which is little enough considering that I never yet receivd one penny from the Land. I can only repeat that I am allways ready to make you a Compensation for your Services and in hopes of hearing from you in answer to this & my foregoing Letter. I remain

New York 12th May 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE JUN: ESQ:

SIR

I am favoured with yours of 6th Feb: by the Harriot Packet which was near eleven Weeks in making her way hither. I referr you to what I have said & done in January last respecting your Adventure of Rum by Todd which turnd out better than any other that I beleive was sold the Season. It soon fell even so low as 4/ & 4/2 where it still remains but probably must rise as the Season advances the price being 2/ at Barbados & short Crops. Exchange too varys for the worse on your side having got to 92½ & even 95 per Ct:

All Europe as you observe has run headlong into one general Inflammation but as extremes meet we may possibly the sooner have a peace for it. You'll say this is going a great way about, it is so but what can be done when the strait road seems to be blockd up. The Colonel has made a Trip to Martineco from whence he returnd the beginning of April but I fancy has done little else, than pay G. Monckton a Visit. Our Capitulations are so gracious that the pleasure & glory of conquering are the principal fruits of our Victories. I am very truly

I have likewise your favour of 8th Jan. to thank you for.

Per the Pitt Packet

N York 12th May 1762

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

I have to thank you for your favour of 7th January per the Pitt Packet that was long upon her passage, but was rather exceeded by the Harriot that arrivd here a few days ago in allmost Eleven Weeks, by the latter I have none of your favours.

A pretty many Transports are preparing for Sea, its said to receive our long establish'd Independent Companys with a proportion of Provincials to releive the Garrisons of Hallifax & Louisbourg, this tho is but a surmize, it may be for an Expedition for ought we know with any certainty.

The old Connection from N. Jersey Eastward have at last voted the Number of Provincials requird the same as last year & have likewise voted a Bounty for a Number of Recruits to fill up the regular Regiments, but it's much to be suspected these last will muster very thin from an aversion to that Service & from the interfering of the Provincial. Our quota is 479, the Bounty ten pounds Currency a Man, to which the General adds five as a further stimulus.

The work at Martineco was cleaverly done, we dont

hear when our Governor returns, it's reported Lord Albemarle was to call there he was not arrivd the beginning of last month.

Logwood I see is risen, does Nicorago²³ keep pace with it or must mine lye bury'd for ever.

If a £ 400 Sterling Bill drawn at Philadelphia that I have endors'd should be shewn to you be pleas'd to pay it for my honour & return it me protested. I am with great respect

Per Pitt packet & New Grace²⁴

N. B. Wrote by this packet to Lieut. Coll. Ja. Cunningham

N York 12th May 1762

MESSRS: LASSELLES & MAXWELL

GENT:

I referr to what I wrote you 14th 16th & 20th Jan: & 12th Feb: as some of the Copys must naturally come to hand.

I am since favourd with yours of 13th Feb: which was a long time getting hither the Packet being near eleven weeks at Sea. Stocks it seems are still tumbling down & peace as distant as ever, that was to mend them. I mentiond in mine of 12th Feb: that if your friend had not forgot his Land something might be done with it now, as it was growing into Value, supposing the quality & Situation good. I remain

Per the Pitt packet & New Grace

²³ Nicaragua wood or peach-wood, a dyewood obtained from Nicaragua.

²⁴ The ship *New Grace*, Capt. Alexander Kerr, cleared from the N. Y. Custom House for Bristol. *N. Y. Mercury*, May 17, 1762.

New York 12th May 1762

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

In my last of 2d March I acknowledged the Receipt of your favour of 12th Dec: observing that you had omitted in my Credit the first Remittance I beleive I ever made you, Cosbys Bill on himself for £ 20 Sterling & that the charge of Alexander Irwin's Bill supposing him the Hostage ought to be made to the Hambro' Remittance, as I before advisd, the Interest being the same.

I beleive I forgot to inform you that a Tweedle Dee Man, one Ledbetter had sent for a Harpsicord for my Daughter & had with my liberty directed the maker to call upon you for the Money, thirty Guineas.

If a Bill drawn at Philadelphia for £ 400 Sterling indorsd by me or another for £ 250 Sterling by Delancey & Watts should be refus'd payment & shewn to you, pray take them up for our honour & send them hither, properly protested. The greater part of the last was brought by Capt: Colgan for your Pork & sold because it was a joint property. I can tell you nothing new. Our Northern Continent of America enjoys a profound peace, while the rest of the World is in flames, how chang'd, at first the Calamitys of Warr were only ours, while the Nations were in quiet. Some Transports are preparing it's said to take on board our Immortal Independants, with some provincials, to releive the Garrisons of Hallifax and Louisbourg. I was lately upon an excursion to Philadelphia with Coll: Amherst & one or two friends, where I was sorry to hear it observd your Agents were not very cleaver in their Business, by which your Interest sometimes suffer'd, I own I suspected so tho I did not care to mention it even to yourself & now do it with reluctance. It is impossible to mend them, Nature has not furnish'd the materials. From the beginning we recommended & even press'd them to take Joshua Howell a cleaver little experienced Quaker to exccute the more knotty part of the Business, but they did not incline

to part with any share of the Mammon, which their great proportion of the Business would very well bear. The Burthensome part we apprehend to be now pretty well over, or we should still advise you to the same measure for your own sake take no Notice of this tis spoke in Confidence to you only who can make no ill use of it. I am allways

Per Pitt packet & New Grace

New York 12th May 1762

MR: SAM: HORNER

SIR

The only Letter I have receivd from you is so long ago as 13th June last, I have wanted my Linnens &ca. very much, for depending on them, my family has not bought here so freely as usual, pray forward them as soon as you can, & when the inclosd Bill of Grace Cunningham on her father, dated 24th April for ten pounds is paid send it likewise in Shirting Linnen from one shilling to three & six pence per Yard.

I allways thought Mr: Bakers Contract extremely well manag'd & as you justly observe if that did not yeild a handsome Profit what must this do so much under it in price, & Provisions started in America fifteen to twenty per Cent since it commenc'd.

Instead of a peace we find ourselves involvd in a fresh Warr with Spain which is disagreeable enough, but is attended with this kind of irksome Consolation, that the general flame Europe is got in must weary & distress the contending Powers into Peace. The two Barrels of Butter was expended for the use of the former Contract & must be chargd to it. If my first Adventure has miscarryd pray send me a good Supply still of good Table Linnen. I am very truely

Per Pitt packet & New Grace

New York 12th May 1762

MESSRS: LASSELLES & MAXWELL

GENT:

I have wrote you allready by this Conveyance but forgot to desire you would send me Copys of the two protested Bills with the Protests, drawn in the Summer fifty seven at Hallifax by Lieut: Hall for £ 70 Sterling each & indorsed by Coll: Will: Byrd sold to & I beleive made payable to Widmore Perry for the use of Samuel Carter. Mr: Clark tells me he has desird you to send them.

The reason I askd them is this, all the Bills it seems & protests too are lost so that Mr: Clarke was able to make no regular Demand, yet Lieut: Hall has given me New Bills for the Value upon an obligation that I should prove the others had been properly protested, which he does not seem thoroughly convinced of, nor can I make appear. As Mr: Clarke has wrote to you on the Subject I cannot doubt that you will be at any Loss to know what Bills I mean tho I do not know the persons Name on whom they were drawn nor the exact date. I am, with regard

Per the Pitt packet & New Grace

New York 12th May 1762

MR: JOHN RIDDELL

SIR

I am a Debtor for your favours of 1st October & 13th Feb: last, I hope I need not tell you both were very wellcome.

I am very glad to hear my Kinswoman is in easy Circumstances, double distress would have been too hard.

Mr: Forrest is heartily wellcome to any Claim or pretensions I might have to my deceased Kinsman's little Estate, if his own Relations are satisfy'd I am sure I am,

had he thought the natural Right mine, I should with pleasure have resign'd it to them.

You can't be too particular in the Detail of Tom's (now Capt: Tom, at least) Success, it was allways an object of my wishes & gives me an adequate satisfaction. I should have both answer'd his Letter & have desird him to take a few Guineas from Mr: Franks for to buy any Trifle he should choose for my family, but I really imagind both too late. When he returns dont forget to make my Apology for the mistake he may otherwise think it unkind. His Muslins are a terrible Commodity indeed, no body will take them for any thing near the prime Cost or I should have renderd your Acct: With infinite difficulty I extorted Sixty Pounds from the Rhode Island Man for the Trumpeter Bacchus but was oblig'd to give an indemnifying obligation just at that Inst: Iago dyed & had his Death been known the Debt would have been lost for ever.

The Cask of Rum I design'd as a Remembrance of our friendship, tho' a small one, was a more substantial Instance wanting I flatter myself you beleive I am allways ready with a sincere heart. Nothing has ever appeard from Curracoa nor I beleive ever will. Isaac is there & has done I beleive great things for himself & brother tho he has been able to do nothing for his friends.

Per the Pitt packet & New Grace

N York 17th May 1762

MR: ERVING JUN:

SIR

This Minute I got from the Office your favour of 10th Inst: relative to the Snow Diamond which is the first & only information I ever receivd. I will speak to G: Amherst about her release tho I know it will be in vain, he has so many Applications of the kind that a person is heard with an ill Ear & besides their own ease will not suffer them to give the Encouragment to it some

Indulgences would do, it would bring on so many solicitations they would be teas'd to Death. We shall some time this week try her at Sale but Capt: Mackay is of opinion she will not rise near enough to the £ 600 Sterling to permit us to part with her, for which reason I have advis'd him to loose no time in preparing her for the Service that she may enter upon Pay as soon as possible. Expences of every kind are so amazing here that it is a very disagreeable Task to fit a Vessel out at all, but especially for the Publick Service, for which Reason if it were possible I could have wish'd the good old Diamond had proceeded without interruption to her own Home, but since it has happend otherwise, we will do the best we can. My Compliments to your father, he may be assur'd no Assistance shall be wanting it is in my power to afford. I am very truly.

New York 18th May 1762

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

The Little Molly fills up to day for Martineco & I hope may sail to morrow or next day. I have put on board ten Barrels of Irish Pork, Eight Tierces of Biskett & the like Number of Barrels of Flour with Seven thousand of the best White Oak hhd: Staves & fifteen thousand Shingles on the Vessels Acct:, the rest is for the Government as the Embargo still continues on Provisions.

As I have been oblig'd for your Interest to alter the Sloops Voyage I thought it best to insure £ 500 Currency on Vessel to Martinico at 8 per Ct. premium & shall insure £ 300 more on a hundred half Johannes's I propose putting in the Masters Custody for your use. When the Sloop arrives at Martinico you will give such farther Orders as you judge proper as neither will be insured farther.

I have sold in all 20 hhds: of the Rum, 5 at $4/3$, 3 at

4/4 & 12 at 4/2 most of them on some Credit, the last on two Months.

Your Master will not suffer any Leather to go in this Cabin, & the Hold is well cram'd with Staves & Shingles. The Freight it seems to Martinico is to be paid here on Condition the Contract is perform'd of delivering the Goods safe, so that I sho'd be glad to have early directions how to dispose of your Effects in my hands, when the Rum is all sold & the Freight due, if a Vessel of Force offers I propose sending some Money in the Mean time Remain

Exchange on London 90 to 95 per Ct: The General has swept up all the Pork he could lay his hands on in this & the Neighbouring Colonys at £ 5 & upwards per Barrel
Per the Cornelia & Capt: Albouy

New York 18th May 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ.

DEAR SIR

I have little material to add to the foregoing as I have not lately Rec'd any of your favours.

It has not been in my power to finish the Sales of Mr. Astins Rum, the Proof is so very low, had it been merchantable, it woud have been ended e'er this. Some from necessity I have been oblig'd to part with at 4/ & should be glad to obtain the same price for the rest that remains Viz. 6 hhds: 5 Tierces & 9 Barrels. If an opportunity offers pray let Mr. Astin know this. I wish nothing more than to have this disagreeable affair ended, tho' happen when it will I am well assured, it will be with dissatisfaction on all sides, the thing was originally so ill judg'd.

As Rum makes a bad Remittance & Exchange is low 90 to 95 per Ct. I imagine it must be best to send me the Proceeds of my Adventures &c: in the Deborah, Capt. Bragg, in good Bills to me hither as I want no Money in England at present.

I have heard lately from your son, he seem'd to be in exceeding good Spirits, all his Affairs are closd with me & very well too, as it has happen'd in the Markets since. I have got Lieut. Halls Draught on Mr. Calcraft Agent to the Regiment for £ 145 Sterling but to oblige him sufferd it to be dated 24th June, till which time it woud not be regular to dispose of it, & shall therefore keep it in my hands, he wanted much to have a Copy of the Protests from the Notary publick, which I promis'd to get him & have wrote for them to Messrs. Lassels & Maxwell, he says he has reason to suspect the Bills were protested, but never had any Satisfactory information of it. We expect our Gov. back again soon, as Lord Albemarle is said to be arriv'd in the West Indies. Some Expedition or at least a Rendevouz of Troops & Transports is forming here, part Regulars part Provincials, but for what Services is not so much as guess'd, time will no doubt discover. I am

Inclos'd is another of Capt. Braggs Bills of Lading
Per the Cornelia & Capt. Allbouy

N York 19th May 1762

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

This I hope may be convey'd you safe by Capt: Albouy whose Bill of Lading is inclosd & Invoice for sundrys Amounting to £ 479.11.8 per your Sloop Little Molly. I have little to add having said all that I could recollect necessary in the foregoing of yesterdays date & in a preceeding of 9th Inst.

I was fored to exert myself diligently to get this Freight for the Molly, more especially with such dispatch & had not the Cargo been under my own direction I should not have got it at all, which must have been a great disappointment to you in the future Views for your Sloop as we are all shut up & how long we may continue

so, no body knows. I have been obligd to Advance Capt: Albouy twenty pounds for the use of the Sloop as his Men all left him, he will accompt to you for this as well as for the Freight she made hither, which he has receivd & expended.

Inclosd is a Copy of my Orders to him & a Receipt for the Money.

Your Letter for Mr: Stripling I sent on it's Arrival to Boston for a Conveyance as none offerd from hence. Mr: Plumsted's went to him immediatly.

I have paid Capt. Albouy the freight of my Ten hhds. Rum for the Vessels use & he has recd. freight likewise for all the rest except yours. Wishing the Sloop a safe & Speedy passage to you I remain

Per Capt. Albouy

New York 19th May 1762

CAPT: ALBOUY²⁵

SIR

Immediatly upon your Arrival at Martineco you are to acquaint Mr: Joseph Maynard your Owner with it & receive his Orders for your farther proceedings, as neither the Vessel or any part of the Cargo is insured beyond the Port where you unload. Whatever he directs, it is your Duty to obey, of course I can only recommend to you Care & Expedition on your passage as when that is ended, you fall again under his fresh Orders. As the Freight is paid here you are to return the usual Certificate for the delivery of the Cargo which will serve I suppose also to cancell both the Provision & Rice Bond a Copy of the Charter party I send with you for your Government.

If you should want the friendly Assistance of Mr: Willson or Mr. Cuyler the Commissarys, pray make my Compliments to them & let them know I should be thankfull for any good Offices they may do you.

Wishing you a prosperous Voyage I remain

* Capt. Richard Albouy, of the sloop *Little Molly*.

New York 24th May 1762

COLL: HUNTER

SIR

I am very much obligd both to Mr: Farmer & you for this short Liquidation as now I can come at my Man with precision which I could not do before. Your Exchange is mounting to the Skies indeed, well if the Remonstrance can keep it down, Ship off more & import less I beleive will do quite as well. The course of things sometimes are very stubborn they wont obey Kings Lords & commons. As the Affair is a Trifle ship me what you think will answer best, have you any Beans. Calavance I am afraid will take Wings or best of all some hard Corn fed Pork, in this Article if the quality be good & the price reasonable you may go to double or treble the Sum & I will pay the Ballance to Mr: Apthorp & if you incline to see sheer Industry come hither & see how he Toils, he has bought a Lot beyond Blomandall something like old Rome with seven Hills & is going to build a house²⁶ on the highest of them. Adieu

Per post & Mr. Lewis's Brigantine

New York 23d May 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:²⁷

SIR

I beg leave to referr to my Letter to your Son by the last Post for the Situation of your Snow at that time which has varyd very little since, except the preparing

²⁶ Charles Ward Apthorp's mansion, "Elmwood," was situated south of West 91st Street, west of Columbus Avenue, New York City. See Stokes, *Iconography of Manhattan Island*, III, 948; H. S. Mott's *New York of Yesterday—Bloomingdale*. The *N. Y. Mercury*, May 21, 1764, narrates a fatal quarrel that occurred between laborers at Mr. Apthorp's "new house."

²⁷ John Erving (1690-1786), a merchant of Boston, Mass. For information about him and his sons, see Temple Prime, *Some Account of the Bowdoin Family with a notice of the Erving Family* (3rd ed., N. Y., 1900); *New Eng. Hist. and Gen. Reg.*, L, 537-38.

her for the Service as I find (Just as I imagin'd) all my endeavours for her release ineffectual as would equally prove any Application I could possibly make for an advanced Allowance or a stated time. One general Rule must govern the whole, which is 13/ per Ton per month & to be continued so long as the Service requires them.

Capt: Mackay did not prepare the Inventory early enough to try a Sale the week past, but we shall do it this. Our constant Method is at publick Sale where often Bidders appear that are never dreamt of in private. There will be no difficulty we hope to keep the Seamen, as pretty considerable Wages due must naturally attach them to the Vessel.

One Months Advance is regularly allowd by the Crown, the Exchange on these Bills is very precarious depending entirely on the discount at Home for private Bills we get 95 per Ct: The Captain writes you with respect to his freight from Hallifax, unluckily they have omitted to put Sterling in the Bills of Lading, which entitles him to Currancy only, till he can make it appear from thence that Sterling was the Agreement and the sooner that is done the better. I am

New York 21st May 1762

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

I have promis'd to give Doctor Jay²⁸ a Countryman of ours a Line to you. He has undertaken to serve our College & I hope may succeed. Whatever Assistance you can without inconveniency to yourself give him will allways be gratefully acknowledgd by the Body & in particular by Sir

Per Doctor Jay

²⁸ Sir James Jay, M.D. (1732-1815), wrote two pamphlets about his collecting money for King's College (Columbia University): *A Letter to the Governors of the College of New York* (London, 1771, 8vo., pp. 42); *A Letter to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge*, (London, 1774, 8vo., pp. 20).

New York 24th May 1762

MR: THOMAS PENNINGTON & SON

GENT:

I could not omit so fair an opportunity of writing to you tho' I have dropt the Pen so long. The Ale & cheese came safe for which you have my thanks & when a good opportunity offers I should be glad of another Cask of each. Logwood we hear is performing Wonders & indeed it is time for it has lain allready too long in a profound obscurity. The Rise now it has got a beginning I think must certainly continue till fresh Resources arrive from America & before that can happen we shall have time enough to look about us & give you notice.

The Spanish Warr was a great Surprize upon us, but I dont know laying all things together but it may bring about a peace as early & more solid than if it had not happen'd. I am

Per the New Grace & Harriot packet

New York 30th May 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

Since I wrote you by the Post 23d I have none of your favours to acknowledge. We since tryd the Snow at Sale but it would not do, some Severitys upon Trade of late have intimidated people from meddling with Shipping, which will have the Effect as long as the fright lasts, some time ago great prices were given for Vessels, but for the Reason I have given that run is entirely checkt & together with the prohibition has brought a melancholy stagnation upon all business, that many individuals must feel very sensibly. I dread the Outfit of your Snow but we must do as well as we can. I am

New York 7th June 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

Since I wrote you by the last Post I have been offerd a thousand & fifty pounds for the Snow Equal to 2625 Dollars. We to pay the Expence of Careening &ca. which had then allready accru'd the Purchaser to assume all the Charge from that time, And if you approve of this Offer the Person agrees still to take her upon your signifying it by the Return of the Post. Her Outfitt we are in hopes will not run so high as was first feard, tho much still depends on the humour of the Agent, who superintends the Transports. I am sorry to tell you as a bad Circumstance that the Wardens appointed to measure her make her but 133 Tons, which is a sad falling off from 152. I have desird them to try her again carefully that if any Error had crept into their proceeding it might be corrected which they have promis'd me to do. If you preferr parting with her I beleive I can get Mr. Apthorp's Bill on Boston for what may remain in my hands after the Wages & all other Charges are paid. I am

New York 14th June 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

Capt: Mackay being still here has receivd your Letter and will answer for himself. I am to acknowledge the receipt of your favour by the Post of the 7th Inst: & shall observe the Directions containd therein.

Our Chap for the Snow meeting with a proper Vessel for his purpose has embracd the Opportunity & declard off with us, which has given us no great uneasiness, as I find you reconcild, since it must be so, to her present Employment, & besides her charges of Outfitt does not appear so alarming as it did at first. You may depend upon it we shall do the best we can, it will be some days yet before she sails, as soon as the Amount of her

Outfitt can be known I will send it you. The Sailors as usual have been very troublesome left the Vessel & sued the Master but we have with some management got them again on board upon Condition one half of their Wages shall be paid before the Vessel goes to Sea, which were the best Terms we could bring it to, and a difficult Work to bring it to that, such a Number of Pettifoggers are allways ready to disturb the Minds of Seamen & puzzell the Laws, which are far from being explicit with respect to Commerce & the only proper one the Legislature ever past to remedy the Evil, the Crown has thought fit lately to repeal.²⁹ I am

New York 20th June 1762

MESSRS: SCOTT PRINGLE & CHEAP [of Madeira]

GENT:

I am a Debtor for several of your favours which the Interruption of our Commerce has disenabled me to answer before.

Provisions of all kinds continue amazingly scarce & dear with us, was it not for the Assistance of Irland we really should be distressed for several Articles & even with that Assistance tis incredible to what a heighth things run, not only the Subsistance of Man but of Beast too which a succession of two Years Drouth has renderd it difficult to support in the usual Number.

If any thing is moderate 'tis Flour & that keeps to 18 per Ct: but a late narrow scrutiny into the Mysterys of Trade at this juncture particularly has renderd people very cautious, as no distinction seems to be made between the one that may really have an evil Tendency in its Consequences, and another in which there appears none, among the latter we rank the Trade to the

²⁹ Chapter 1132, An Act for the better Government and Regulation of Seamen in the Merchants Service, passed Nov. 8, 1760, repealed and annulled by the King, 11th March, 1762, notified in N. Y. Council, 11th June, 1762. *Laws of N. Y. 1691-1773*, (N. Y. 1774), I, 385.

Dominions of Portugal which we can hardly conceive was any Object of the Law. The Ballance that remains in our favour on the Adventure by the Sloop Virgin you will be pleasd to remit us in the best pale Wine. Poor Capt: Hunter lost his Vessel in the West Indies by Ship Wreck & is since dead himself of a lingering Complaint. You have my hearty thanks for the Box of Citron, by Capt: Fairly it provd as usual very good. I am

Via Philadelphia Copy Capt. Durham

New York 26th June 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE, ESQ:

SIR

My last was 18th May both Original & Copy Via Martineco. I am since favoured with yours of 6th May with the two Casks of Spirits for Gen: Monckton who is returned to his Government in better health than he left it, but a rude French Man or Spaniard took his Baggage Vessel & with great difficulty let the Lizard³⁰ herself escape, who they are we have not yet found out. One of them appeard to be a Line of Battel Ship the other a frigate. I have sold Halls Bill at 95 per Ct: which yeilds you £ 282.15 Currancy. And Messrs: Lasselles & Maxwell have sent me a Copy of the Protest, desiring me to remit them the Value in another Bill, but both the Extravagant Exchange & your Orders forbid it.

I have at last finishd the Sales of Mr: Astin's Rum, it Neats £ 1932.4.1 & when all the Debts are collected a great many of which are still unpaid without charging one Shilling Interest for my great & long Advance of Money, there will not remain One hundred Pounds due to him, even crediting as I have done the Bill of Hypothication for £ 400. A Little after the Sloop saild I had Orders for Insuring his property in her which I did, Valu'd at £ 500. The Premium with Commission & Policy

* The *Lizard* frigate, Capt. Banks, reached N. Y. June 12, 1762, in seventeen days from Antigua. *N. Y. Mercury*, June 14, 1762.

amounting £ 47.15. being 9 per Ct: as I had before given for myself.

If she should arrive safe, I should choose the Proceeds of her Cargo & the Bottomry Bill remitted to me here in Bills on London unless Rum falls very considerably at Barbados, being but about 4/ per Gallon here. I am with great truth

To be forwarded by Thom. Lawrence, Copy thro' Mr: Allen

New York 26 June 1762

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

Since the preceding two Letters of 18th & 19th May I am favourd with yours of 26 April too late to make any Alteration in the Assortment of her Cargo but had it even come in time, the Case would have been just the same as we were Circumstanced. The Condition you proposd on her Insurance out would never have been complyd with by the Underwriters without a monstrous premium to allow you the distance of 33 Days for her arrival & then to commence their Risque, when it's an equal chance but she may be taken is a proposal they would never listen to, but by down right Weight of premium.

The Insurance out to Martineco on £ 500 at 8 per Ct: with Commissions & Policy amounts to £ 42.15, & on £ 300 expressly Gold at 7 per Ct: with the like Charges to £ 22.15.

Inclosd is the Acct: Sales of your 40 hhds: Rum Netting £ 748.19.7 about one half remains still unpaid for, as I gave some Credit to better the Terms, the Market continues pretty much the same tho some has been sold between 3/9 & 3/10. When I came to deliver the Staves left by Capt: Allbouy there was only 2 M: 2 Ct: the difference being 30 is chargd to your Acct: as he must have them on board, having given a receipt for 7 M: And he left two hundred Weight of Bread unpaid, deliverd loose

on board the Vessel 31st April & 14th May for present use at 18/ per Ct: amounting to 36/. I am

Via Martinico per Thos. Lawrence, Copy per [blank]
Via Philadelphia to Mr. Meredeth's Care

New York 1st July 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

My last was of 14th Ult: since which I have your favour of 18th following, the Convoy of which the Diamond is One saild yesterday her. Expence amounts to £ 639.5.9½ per Acct: inclosd Certifyd by Capt: Mackay, exclusive of Commissions. The Tradesmen's Bills I shall send in a day or two by Mr: Barons. I have not paid a shilling but by the Captains Directions who purchasd every thing at the cheapest rates & drew upon me for the Amount, his own Acct: he tells me he has sent you, but did not shew it to me, I desird a Copy which he promisd to send me from the Hook. I have not sold the Impress Bill for a Months pay Advance, it amounts to £ 86.12.3 Sterling being 133¼ Tons at 13/. I thought to have got 85 per Ct: Exchange but the Money Agents lowering their Exchange from 95 to 90 per Ct: no body inclines to give that for the present if you choose it I will send it to you or remit it Home on your own Acct: I am

The Cable Anchors & Wages strike deep in the Acct: The Master has promisd to spare the first if possible. After I had finishd the Acct: of Expences appeard Capt: Mackays Bill on me for Pilotage & Attendance on the Snow which I imagin'd he had paid himself.

N. B. Sent the Accts: the 4th July by Mr. Barons

New York 5th July 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ

SIR

Tho I have but a few Minutes left me I cannot deferr answering your favour of 30th May with its Postscript,

as well as those few Minutes will allow me. I hope to have no farther occasion of troubling you with Mr: Astin's Affairs, it was natural for me to hypothicate the Sloop, when I knew both here & in the West Indies exasperated Creditors ready to lay hold of her on the first opening. Sell her I could not, the Matter had gone too far before I had the Information that alterd my measures. It was disagreeable enough to be obligd to take an ill assorted Cargo to myself that I never dreamt of. His Attorneys Mr: Gwillim writes me were not well pleased at the large proportion of Lumber, nor I can assure them was I, but how could it be avoided, & who will suffer by it, they or myself.

After the Sloop had been saild two Months at least I was informd a Ton of Bread had been left behind, which was the first intimation of it either given to myself or any Body under me, you will therefore be pleas'd to let Mr: Gwillim discharge Capt: Bragg from his Obligation on that Acct: No Man of Warr that I can hear of is bound to the West Indies, the Lizard is gone a Convoy, they say to the Havanna.

Gold is very scarce here & I believe at Philadelphia too, I shall write to my friend Mr: Allen to send you five hundred pounds Sterling if a Vessel of Force offers, half Johanne's are the only Gold that can be pick'd up in any Quantity, they pass at 63/, Moidores are very rare at 46/ so are Guineas at 36/ & Pistoles at 29/.

The General we find is to expect some of his Servants again from your Quarter, it was an unpolite fellow not to ransom the Generals Baggage, some of it would have provd very seasonable just now, being his Birth Day.

I am glad your Bacon provd good & remain with great regard

To the care of Mr. Allen, Copy by Mr. Meredeth to his care

New York 9th July 1762

MR: DANIEL MOORE

SIR

My Letters on the Old Affairs are something like the Seasons slow & tolerably regular & like a bad Season produce very little.

Pray tell me if Elricks & Minots Affairs are yet to be settled or whether I must esteem them lost, I look upon these both as hard Cases, because they were not contracted in the ordinary Course of Business, but after the Money was absolutely receivd for me, it was knavishly stole out of my unguarded Factors hands, for a peice of dirty worthless Paper.

I hope you will pay in time a proper Attention to the Debts left outstanding by Mr: Cruger or these too will inevitably grow worse as they grow older.

I wish you health & prosperity & remain with a sincere regard

If any Money should come in for the two Ancient Debts stop the Value of Mr: Riddells Rum out of it.

Per Capt. Tucker & Mr. Grant

New York 14th July 1762

MR: SAM HORNER

SIR:

Not having heard from you of late & this Conveyance offering for Dublin immediatly I embrace it to inclose you a third of Grace Cunninghams Bills on her father & to beg you would still think of my Table Linen. I am

Per Capt. Heysham's

New York 15th July 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

The two foregoing are Copys of my last the one through Martinique the other Philadelphia. The Lyon Arm'd

Ship Capt: Shackerly sails in a day or two for Martinique, by her I propose to send five hundred pounds Sterling in Gold on your Accompt addressd to Mr: Mackleane as you have nam'd no other person & he I find receiv'd my Bill for you on Howard.

G: Monckton was mentioning to me some Money you had advanced for him, and said he would look for the Bill & direct me to pay it, which I am sure he will not neglect as he is very punctual in these things, the Rum you sent him lyes still in my Cellar, the House in the Fort not being yet prepar'd to receive him. The Capture of his Baggage is both a devilish Disappointment and a Loss but then on the other hand it was very lucky to escape himself.

I am allways

I forgot to tell you that Exchange was reduc'd from 95 to 90 per Ct: by the Money Agents opening their shop at that rate who had not drawn for some time & when they do draw have such a strong digestion that they govern the Exchange.

Via Philadelphia Original & Copy to Mr. Merediths Care

New York 15th July 1762

MR: JOHN GWILLIM

SIR:

I was glad to find by your Letter of 31st May that the Deborah got at last safe to Port. The Eight Casks of Bread you mention to have been left behind I knew nothing of, till I beleive two Months after the Vessel had been saild & then Abeel seemd to tell me of it with Surprize & in such a loose manner that I really doubted the Fact, however since it is so Capt: Bragg must be immediatly dischargd from his Obligation poor man I wish this may be the last of his troubles.

Tis odd Mr: Astins Attorneys should be dissatisfyd with the large proportion of Lumber on board the Deb-

orah, shall I be a gainer by it or was it put on board to oblige me was not the whole a disagreeable Burthen thrown on my hands by his own Conduct. I am sure I never desire such a confusd vexatious piece of Business to fall to my Lot again, let them enhance the Freight & then the thing will be all of a piece. Trifles I am very indifferent about.

You say the Major part of the Cargo is sold, only some of the Lumber & Bread remaining but mention nothing of the Prices at which they sold which would have been proper for me to know I have wrote to Mr: Clarke unless Rum should fall very considerably Bills must do best they are worth 90 per Ct: & Rum scarcely 4/ per Gallon the single hhd: I am

Via Philadelphia to Mr. Meredeths care Copy per the
[blank]

New York 19th July 1762

LAU[CHLAN] MACLEANE ESQ:

SIR:

Mr: Clarke desires me to Ship him some Money to Martinique if a proper Oppertunity offers, but does not tell me to whom to Address it, tho I presume it must be to you, from your receiving Howards small Bill for him. The Lyon Arm'd Ship is the properest Conveyance that presents & by her I have sent Three Hundred Half Johanne's & five Moidores per Inclosed Bill of Lading for the Disposition of Which I hope you will have his Orders. The Letter for him be pleased to forward & Excuse the trouble I have from Necessity been Obliged to Give you. The General is Well. I have Delivered to Capt: Shakerly a good many Letters from himself & family, not a Small proportion of them for you. Napier & all the Hospital Staff well. I am

The Generals White Servants are just arrived from Bermuda. The Rude Frenchman took on board & kept every other thing & Scuttled the naked Scooner. The

Servants were Carry'd to Bermuda by a N. E. Vessel afterwards taken & ransomed.

New York 19th July 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR:

As I judge the Lyon Armd Ship to be the safest conveyance for some Gold I have by two Opportunitys thro Philadelphia advisd you that I should Ship five hundred pounds Sterling in her which attends this letter, recommended to Mr: Maclean the Johanne's cost 63/ the Moidors 46/. I dont apprehend you mean to have any Insurance on so small a Sum, but if you did it could not be effected on any Vessel whatever from one to two per Ct: as you propose, I have not yet drawn for the Value but have agreed for a Bill at 90 per Ct: The now Current Exchange to be furnished when the first Vessel sails for England. The General's White Servants are just arrivd from Bermuda the Sixty Gun Ship & Frigate that took the Schooner gutted her of every thing scuttled her & put these Servants only on board of a N. E. Man afterwards taken & ransomed they would not hear of a Ransom for the Schooner & Baggage, & behavd very ungenately in all respects.

Per Capt. Shackerly

New York 21st July 1762

MESSRS: JAMES & CHARLES CROCKATT

GENT:

By Direction of Lady Ann Atkin we Remit you £ 284.0.5 Sterling we had receiv'd for her Late Husbands Salary. The remittance Consists of 2 Setts of Bills drawn by William Saltonstall on the Board of Ordinance. The one No: 94 dated Martinique 18th April for £100 Sterling, The other No: 95 of the same Date for £ 150 Sterling,

& one Sett for the Ballance Drawn by J. Watts on Lassels & Maxwell Value £ 34.0.5 Sterling. Exchange is so high as 90 per Ct: & was a few weeks ago at 95 per Ct: We are

Per the Hallifax packet, Capt. Lewis & the Cumberland packet

New York 21st July 1762

MESSRS: LASSELLES & MAXWELL

GENT:

I am a Debtor for your favour of 8th April all prior to it I think I have acknowledged. The Protest of Halls Bills came very seasonably for he could never be thoroughly persuaded they were protested, some doubts hung still about him however upon my engagement to produce it as I before mentioned to you, he paid me £ 145. Sterling in Bills which I sold here by Mr: Clarkes directions at 95 per Ct: Exchange & gave him Credit for the Value. Upon a Cursory Enquiry I find Land of a similar quality & Situation to Mr: Freeman's has sold for £ 250 Currancy a thousand, some under, a Tract by Report a very fine one belonging to Mrs: Cosby was lately sold by Sir William Johnson on those Terms after offering them some time for Sale.

As I suppose Mr: Freeman will not much relish this price it must be useless to send me a Power that of course must remain a dead Letter. The Patent³¹ is in the hands of Mr: Thomas Jones, Executor to Mr: Murray & the

³¹ A tract of land on the south side of the Mohawk River was patented on July 3, 1736, to Thomas Freeman, his wife, Grace (Cosby) Freeman (who was the daughter of Gov. William and Grace Cosby), and to David Martin. The latter, on August 2, 1736, conveyed his share to Thomas Freeman, on whose death, it descended to his heir at law, John Cope Freeman. Grace (Cosby) Freeman, widow of Thomas Freeman, became entitled to one half of the tract of land by survivorship. She married Joseph Murray, and died without issue, and her half of the property went to her heir at law, her insane brother, William Cosby, of New Rochelle. See a manuscript memorandum by James Duane, N. Y. March 10, 1775 to John Watts, as attorney for John Cope Freeman, among the Watts Papers owned by the N. Y. Historical Society.

other Moity no doubt you know belongs to an Idiot Son of Mrs: Cosby residing near this City.

Mr: Clarke has directed me to send him some Gold to the West Indies & to draw upon you for the Value, had a Man of Warr offerd the Sum was to have run up to five thousand pounds Sterling, but the Case being otherwise, I was to venture in two strong Merchantmen but five hundred pounds Sterling each. One I ship this day in an armd Vessel calld the Lyon Capt: Shackerly for Martinique & have drawn to Thomas Jones for the Value which Draught you will be pleasd to honour & charge to his Acct: Whether I shall be able to accomplish the other five hundred is not quite so clear.

I have likewise drawn upon you for my own Acct: a Bill of this date to James & Charles Crockatt for thirty four pounds & five pence Sterling, which be pleasd also to honour and charge me with it. I remain with regard

The Bill I have drawn to Mr: Jones is for Land sold in the very tract of which Mr: Freeman's is a part, calld Butlers purchase, he got a thousand pounds Cur-rancy for Six thousand Acres the purchaser paying the Quitrent due which was about £ 300 more.

Per the Hallifax packet, Capt: Lewis & the Cumberland packet

New York 26th July 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR:

I have your favours to acknowledge of 12th & 19th Inst: Mr: Pryce's Conduct is no new thing to us, however upon the whole I think he did not differ much with the Master except about the New Cable, & speaking to the Wardens of the Port in relation to it I found they were of opinion it ought to be had for fear of Accidents, which reconcild me more to the thing. I can assure you I thought the Expence would have run higher considering how heavy some of the Articles are, that of Wages for Men & Mate amounts itself to above a hundred

pounds, the Anchor & Cable is a hundred & twenty. But what the Master can mean by transmitting no Accts: is amazing to me, he absolutely told me he had sent them, when I represented it was proper he should, & when I desir'd a Copy of them to look over, he as absolutely promis'd to send it from the Hook, but it seems has perform'd both alike, which has a very unbecoming appearance, as it could neither proceed from forgetfulness or mistake. I hope however the Vessel may do well, & he return to give you the satisfaction he ought to have done before he saild. I flatter myself the Letter from Hallifax will answer the end proposd, I am sure it is highly reasonable it should. Coll: Robertson promis'd me to apply to the General concerning Coll: Forster's Letter refer'd to, but as he return'd me no answer in the time I expected, I apply'd myself to Coll: Amherst, who was so kind as to look for it immediatly & found it just as your friend from Hallifax says.

I have not since seen Coll: Robertson, tho I have enquir'd for him two or three times. As soon as these Matters are settled I will some how or other close the Acct:, but at present it requires no great hurry. I am with great truth

Pray be so kind as to pay with my Compliments Mr: Paxton forty nine Dollars Value receiv'd for a small Bill on Coll: Bradstreet at Albany

New York 31st July 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR:

My last was of 19th Inst: by the Lyon Armd Ship Capt: Shackerly with 300 half Johannes at 63/ & 5 Moidores at 46/ recommended to Mr: McLeane, a Copy follow'd by way of Philadelphia. I now send by Mr: Plumsted returning to Philadelphia two hundred more half Johannes which I beleive will be made three hundred there by Mr: Allen, & Shipt you in Capt: White which

is esteemd a defenceable safe Vessel. I drew on Messrs: Lasselles & Maxwell the 21st Inst: for £ 500 Sterling payable to Thomas Jones at 90 per Ct: amounting to £ 950 Currency which is about the Currant Value or very near it of the Gold on board the Lyon, what I draw for hereafter will I hope be at a better Exchange as the Money Agents are holding their hands at present. It would be nothing new to you to mention our Loss on the Coast of Newfoundland by such a paltry Sea Force, not a Ship of the Line is in these Seas from one End of the Continent to the other except the Northumberland alone, with Lord Colville at Hallifax. The Gosport from hence and Launceston from Boston are gone to join him. The Havannah not ours nor so much as One Battery taken the 17th Instant but the Operations were going on well & the Moor Castle grown very feeble. Coll: Burton not arrivd tho' he saild from hence the 12 June. I am very truly

Pray be so kind as to order me a Certificate for Braggs Cargo if it be not sent

Via Philadelphia to Mr. Allens care

New York 11th August 1762

MESSRS: LASSELLES & MAXWELL

GENT

Since the foregoing I am favoured with yours of 11th June within these few days by the Duke of Cumberland Packet.³² My Acct: I shall attend to at a little more leisure, it is very right I dont doubt. As I am Shipping from Philadelphia five hundred pounds Sterling more Gold per the Hamilton, Capt: Whyte on Mr: Clarke's Acct: I have drawn on you a Bill for £ 200 Sterling in favour of Moses Franks for the use of James Neilson of this date which you will be pleas'd to honour and charge

³² The *Duke of Cumberland* packet, Capt. Goodridge, arrived at New York on Aug. 1, 1762, in six weeks from Falmouth. *N. Y. Mercury*, Aug. 2, 1762.

to him. The remainder I shall draw for hereafter. I am very sincerely
Per the Cumberland packet, Via Bristoll & the Buelah³³

New York 11th August 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR:

The foregoing of 31st Ult: is Copy of my last Via Philadelphia since which I find Mr: Allen had prepar'd £ 500 Sterling to go in the Ship Hamilton Capt: Whyte, a Vessel of some force, but as Mr: Plumsted will probably get there before the Money is Shipt I am in hopes he will have time to substitute the two hundred half Johannes in lieu of Pistoles he had pick'd up for want of Portuguese Coin.

An Expedition is forming here for the retaking of Newfoundland under the Command of Coll: Amherst to consist of fourteen hundred Men, A hundred and sixty recover'd Mantinquens embark from hence the rest are to be pick'd up at Hallifax and Louisbourg, for Men of Warr they trust to a re-enforcement from home or at least hope the Enemys Ships will be slunk off before they get there. I am very truely
Per Capt. F.

New York 12th August 1762

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR:

The Packet brought me your favour of 10th June in tolerable good time, those before her had violent long passages and communicated everything at second hand, this indeed had cause for dispatch if the Administration turn'd upside down can afford a Cause what in the world can be the meaning of all these Changes. No wonder

³³ The ship *Beulah*, Capt. John Green, cleared from N. Y. for London. *N. Y. Mercury*, Aug. 30, 1762.

the Enemy refus'd us peace abroad, when we refuse it ourselves at Home. It's possible Events of this Nature may have a favourable Issue but I am sure it's far from being probable. As to tampering with the Stocks I am really no Judge of it, and therefore can say little on the Subject, every Man you know would choose to have his Interest in them better'd & mine I must submit to your friendship and Circumspection.

I wish to God the Transferr may be settled at home, and that it certainly can be done as easily and properly as here, now both the quantity and prices are establish'd. It would be too dangerous an Experiment to lay ourselves open to [blank] he is endeavouring to recommend himself to his Master by a Conduct diametrically opposite, as he knows he pleases him by so doing & steals into his Confidence which he esteems the Summum Bonum, as it may be the road to preferment. With the other, which is of ten times more Consequence, we stand very well, and do Business with ease and dispatch, that might be perplexed or protracted to any length.

At the request of Mr: James Neilson I send you for his Acct: a Bill of Exchange for £200 Sterling drawn by myself on Lasselles and Maxwell of yesterdays date, which you will pass to his Credit.

The Loss of St. Johns &ca. on Newfoundland by such an insignificant force must alarm our folks at Home I imagine greatly, as it has done us here. Coll: Amherst sails to day for Hallifax and Louisbourg with Transports to collect fourteen hundred Men & if Lord Colville can but assemble a force sufficient to face the Enemy they propose making a push for the recovery of it before the Enemy strengthen themselves too much. We begin to be impatient for good Tydings from the Havanna, the business seems to move with too slow a pace, some how or other. Coll: Burton not arrived there the 20th July tho he left this the 12th June. Coll: Agnue has a better prospect having been spoke to off the Caicoses in twenty one days, from whence it is but about a week to the Havanna. Adieu beleive me very truly

Per the Cumberland packet, Mr. Foliat's Ship to Bristoll
Capt. Murray ³⁴

New York 14th August 1762

MESSRS: LASSELLES & MAXWELL

GENT:

I have already wrote you by this Conveyance but have since drawn upon you of this date for one hundred & fifty pounds Sterling in favour of Messrs: David Barclay & Sons for the use of William Allen Esq: which Bill you will be pleas'd to honour & charge to the Acct: of our friend Gedney Clarke Esq: being for Gold Shipt to him, in pursuance of his before mentioned Orders. I remain

Per the Cumberland packet Via Bristoll & the Beulah

New York 14th August 1762

MESSRS: DAVID BARCLAY & SONS

GENT

By Direction of our mutual friend Mr: Allen of Philadelphia I send you a Bill of Exchange for £150 Sterling of this date drawn by myself on Messrs: Lasselles and Maxwell which you will be pleas'd to pass to his Credit when paid. I am

Per the Cumberland packet Via Bristoll & the Beulah

New York 14th August 1762

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR:

Your favours have been so long making their way hither that I must begin with the 31st March and join

³⁴ Stewart Murray, Captain of the ship *Edward*, which cleared from N. Y. for Bristol. *N. Y. Mercury*, Aug. 23, 1762.

to it the two succeeding ones of 23d April & 10th June. Mr: Delancey as well as myself is extremely obligd to you for the Attention shewn to his Son, whatever the expence is, he must be content, a little Money savd will be a poor Consolation for a starved education, especially in the way he proposes to go.

Coll: Amherst embarks this day with seven Transports & a few recover'd Troops from Martinique in order to collect at Hallifax & Louisbourg a small Army to recover Newfoundland before the Enemy strengthen themselves too much. The whole number it's said will amount to fourteen hundred Men, the Enemy brought there originally about nine hundred, how they are or are to be dispos'd of, we dont know with any certainty. 'Tis vexatious to have such a valuable Branch of Commerce taken from us by such a paltry force, when a whole Battalion in the Neighbourhood stood only gazing expensively useless on the ruins of Louisbourg. I remain with great truth
Per the Cumberland packet & Via Bristoll

New York 23d August 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR:

Capt: Whyte I find is saild from Philadelphia with the two hundred half Johannes I sent from hence to which Mr: Allen added fifty seven & three Quarters more of the same Coin & 33½ Moidors the first cost 63/ here, the two latter at 57/6 & 43/6 piece that Currency amount to £243.4.10, which as Exchange governs between us of 6⅔ per Ct: Advance Dollars being the Standard is here £259.9.2 & is so pass'd to your debit. This Money was collected at Philadelphia to be paid for by Bill at 74 per Ct:, I accordingly drew 14th Instant on Lasselles and Maxwell for £150 Sterling in favour of David Barclay & Sons amounting to £261 Philadelphia Currency & that at 6⅔ per Ct: is here £278.8 for which you have Credit,

Seventy four is lower than the Current Exchange of Philadelphia on London, but when Portuguese Gold is not to be bought at those Prices without a Premium & therefore consulting with some knowing people of that place who happend to be here, it was judgd best to relax the Exchange in consideration of having the Gold without a Bounty & upon a Calculation you will find, that Exchange & that Standard for Gold to be somewhat preferable to Bills at 90 per Ct: & Johannes at 63/ here. Besides the before mentiond Bill I drew on Messrs: Lasselles & Maxwell 11th Instant for £200 Sterling in favour of Moses Franks at forty days Sight 92½ per Ct: amounting to £385 likewise passed to your Credit, these two added to the £500 Sterling in favour of Thomas Jones 21st Ult: makes Eight hundred & fifty pounds Sterling drawn for on your Acct: for Gold Shipt in the Lyon to Martinique from hence & in the Hamilton from Philadelphia to Barbados, in both which Adventures tho not very important I wish you success. Tis very difficult to come at Gold of any Denomination and had it not been for an Intimacy with the Deputy pay Master here who was so kind as to assist me I could not have scraped together the small Sum sent to you.

I have wrote to you frequently of late & transmitted Copys of all my Letters regularly Viz: 26 June, 5th, 15th, 19th & 31 July & 11th Inst: some thro' Martinique others thro Philadelphia as Conveyances from hence to Barbados directly are very rare.

I have none of your favours to acknowledge since that of 30th May allready answerd. As this seeks a passage thro Philadelphia any thing I can say of our Operations must be a twice told Tale. We are very anxious about the Havanna.

Rum has lately come in but slowly & is looking up, the Market hitherto has run from 4/ to 4/3. All Necessarys for Life both for Man and Beast are astonishingly dear & scarce, owing in a great Measure to the most severe Drouth that ever was known in this part of the

World. How food will be provided for Cattle during a long dreadfull Winter, God alone knows. I am ever Sir
Original & Duplicate to Messrs. Plumsted & Frank's ³⁵
care

New York 27th August 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR:

The Inclosd I receivd from your Nephew yesterday thro Philadelphia whither I am obligd to return them again for a Conveyance. I wrote you 23d Inst: at large & sent both Original & Copy thro the same Channel to seek a passage & remain

New York 29th August 1762

MESSRS: SMITH & NUTT

GENT.

A Late Letter we have from Mr: Brymer expresses a great solicitude of hearing from you to know what Dependance he is to make on a Supply of Rice. Conveyances by Water we imagine not to Be frequent from Carolina to Quebec, if therefore you sho'd at any time have Occasion to Write & Will make this Your Channell, we can allways regularly forward your Letters both safely & Expeditiously through Albany by an Established Post.

I have no Letter to Acknowledge, either to Myself Particularly or in Company. A Vessel I find Arrived Yesterday from Carolina with a full Load of Rice which is pretty much wanted for Common consumption, as very little has been Imported of Late. The Price may be about 15/ per Cwt: Flour is Still 22 or 23/ per Cwt: Bread 24/ to 25/ Exchange 95 on London. Annexed is a

³⁵ William Plumsted and David Franks, of Philadelphia, Pa. See M. J. Kohler, "The Franks Family as British Army Contractors," in *Pub. Amer. Jewish Hist. Soc.*, XI, 181-84.

Copy of the Last Letter I Wrote you in Company, which is all that at present offers from

Via Philadelphia to J. Howell

New York 30th August 1762

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR:

I am glad to find by your favour of 15 July that my disposal of the Little Molly met with your Approbation, as I flatterd myself it must taking in all Considerations, And I should have been well pleasd to have heard of her Arrival without Interruption but am apprehensive the Case is otherwise from an Account just given me by a Master of a Vessel from Martinique who says she was taken and ransomd for four hundred pounds, but knows no particulars not even whether the Money was savd or no, which would have been an agreeable information, was it savd. It seems odd the Master never wrote me a line, a Certificate for the delivery of the Cargo is necessary in order to settle the freight & a Proof of Loss to recover the Insurance of which there is £500 on Vessel £300 on Gold.

I have directed Mr: Joshua Howell to send you from Philadelphia about Sixty half Johanne's by the safest Conveyance that offers as we have seldom opportunitys from this place. You are silent about Insurance & therefore I must presume intend none shall be made. I am

Via Philadelphia Original & Copy to Js. Howell

New York 31st August 1762

MESSRS: KILBY BARNARD & Co:

GENT.

You have inclos'd agreeable to your desire a Certificate for the two Chests of Tea per the Ship Dove Capt: Sut-

field ³⁶ another shall follow to guard against Accidents by the next opportunity. Mr: Syme is still at Albany. I am

Per Capt. Daverson & the Pit packet ³⁷

New York 9th Sept: 1762

MESSRS: SMITH & NUTT
GENT.

The foregoing is Copey of my last, since which I have none of your favours. The Last Rice that came in I find sold for 16/6 per Ct: Exchange Remains from 92½ to 95 per Ct: Tis a Glorious atcheivment we have made of The Havanna, but it has cost us Dear four Battallions of the Victors just arriv'd are an Epitome of the Resurrection. The Bullion it's said will Amount to a Million & a half Sterling. The Naval & other Stores increase the Ships of Warr a Respectable Squadron, the Snuff Manufactory &c. very Valuable, all the Property of the Captors, the two Cheifs to devide five fifteenths equally, the two Seconds Three fifteenths in the same Manner, The Remainder to be shared between the Land & Sea forces according to their usual Regulations.³⁸ If Lord Colville is but reinforced with Ship or two of the Line either from Home or from Admiral Pocock, it's a great chance but we have St: Johns again our own, with the Addition of the little Armament that stole it. His present force supposing all the Ships with him orderd thither consists of the Northumberland, the Gosport, the Antilope, the Aldborough, the Syrene, the Boston Gard Ship & the Enterprize lately saild from hence. Coll: Amherst is to Command fourteen or fifteen hundred Men & by the latest

³⁶ Benjamin Sutfield, captain of the ship *Dove*, from London. *N. Y. Mercury*, Aug. 16, 1762.

³⁷ On Friday, Sept. 24, 1762, there sailed from N. Y. the ship *Mary*, Capt. Deverson, for London, and the *Pitt* Packet, Capt. Goddard with the mail, for Falmouth. *N. Y. Mercury*, Sept. 27, 1762.

³⁸ For the amount of prize money paid to the men of each rank in the army and navy at Havana, see Robert Beatson's *Naval and Military Memoirs of Great Britain* (1804) III, 407-8.

Accounts was collecting at Hallifax in order to proceed to Louisbourg to complete that Number. Prince Ferdinand has again beat the French 24th June commanded by D'Estrees & Soubise, the Victory was thought so highly of at Home as to be celebrated with the Compliment of the Park and Tower Guns.

Per Capt: Maclean

New York 10th September 1762

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR:

I wrote you 30th Ult: Original & Copy thro Philadelphia. I am since favourd with yours of 5th August & in Consequence of it have insurd on the Sloop Little Molly Cargo & Freight £700 from Martinique to Barbados but as the Islands have been of late its said extremely neglected I could not get it done under 6 per Ct: the Underwriters are so excessively alarmd.

If Albouy did not save his Money he must be a very stupid fellow for I gave him all the precautions that could be thought of & particularly chargd him not to venture it in his Chest or suffer any one of the Crew by any means to know it was on board. Pray furnish me with clear Acct: of the Loss with what proportion each part is to bear, that I may recurr for Insurance. If you had not meddled with the Vessel I think it would have been best as five hundred Pound I should judge to be her full Value, unless you wanted her for a particular Service. I have directed Mr: Howell to send you about Sixty half Johannes's from Philadelphia by the Safest Conveyance that offers, but what you mean by a Vessel of force I dont well understand, as few or none such offer, & you might be kept out of your Money too long, it were better to make Insurance, if you have no objection to it. I am

inclos'd to Plumsted & Franks, Copy to Mr. Allen

New York, 21st Sept: 1762

COLL: BARRÉE

SIR:

I am glad to find Capt: Chambers got safe with your small Adventure thro' the fiery tryal our Merchantmen undergo in their way Home.

At last the Trunk I call'd upon Capt: Coventry for so long in vain, is come to light, it was huddled down in the same Sloop with Coll: Robertson's things & lay undiscoverd at his House till very lately I heard of it & have shipt it in the Bearer Capt: Daverson of the Ship Mary, directed with a Card, besides having the initial Letters of your Name made with Nails.

I congratulate you on the reduction of the Havanna, but really it is a great drawback to see what a Condition the brave Troops are reduc'd to who conquerd it, never did I see such a Spectable, One Ship took on board at the Havanna One hundred & ten Royal Highlanders & in Sixteen days landed here hardly alive thirty odd, the rest I beleive did not suffer quite so much. As I am sure I tird your patience thoroughly before, I will make what amends remains in my power, and without a word more subscribe myself with great truth,

We long to hear a Ship or two of the Line have join'd Lord Colville to put the Matter out of doubt.

You have no doubt the Key of your Trunk, no Body knows a Syllable of it here.

Per Capt. Daverson

N. B. Inclos'd this Letter with the Recpt. for the Trunck to John Richardson Esq. Downing Street, Westminster, & wrote him by the Pit Packet it was on board of Daverson.

N. B. Wrote by the Pitt packet of this date to Sir Charles Hardy, on Sundry Subjects, three whole pages.

New York 22d Sept: 1762

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

My last was 14th August, since which I have none of your favours.

Mr: DeLancey desires I wou'd Inclose to you the two Letters under this Cover.

You'l likewise find a small impress Bill drawn by David Pryce on the Commissioners of the Navy for a Months pay advance on the Transport Snow Diamond John Mackay Master Dated 7th June Value £86.12.3 which you will be pleas'd to Manage for me as well as you Can the Payments I am told are Very uncertain & Variable.

The Conquest of The Havanna ought to procure us a peace for it has quite broke the heart of the American Army never was such spectacles seen as a Whole Brigade arriv'd from thence consisting of the 17th Regt: The two Battallions of Royall Highlanders & Montgomeries.³⁹ They Bury'd Allmost one half at Sea in a Passage of Sixteen Days & of those that survive not a hundred men it's said are fit for Duty. We hear no Great Encomiums but upon the Admiral ⁴⁰ & some of the Land officers of the second Class. General Eliot ⁴¹ is much Complained of for behaving harshly & harrassing the Troops without Occasion. The Brigade that is here was immediately under his Command. Be so kind as to send George Saul the Inclos'd Letter & pay him £41.5.3 & Charge it to my Acct.

I should be glad to hear my long forgotten Nigorago was off our hands at some tolerable Price. The Progress of Logwood I can see Through tolerably well, tho' the

³⁹ The 17th Regt. of Foot, Major-General Robert Monckton, Colonel, under the command of Lieut. Col. John Campbell; the first and second battalions of the 42nd or Royal Highland Regt. of Foot, Lord John Murray, Colonel, under the commands of Lieut. Colonel John Reid, and Lieut. Colonel Gordon Graham; the 77th Regt. of Foot, or 1st Highland Battalion, Hon. Archibald Montgomery, Colonel, Major Robert Merrie, commander. For a complete list of the troops engaged in the siege of Havanna, and of the fleet, see Robert Beatson's *Naval and Military Memoirs of Great Britain*, III, 393-396.

⁴⁰ Sir George Pocock, K. B., Admiral of the Blue.

⁴¹ Lieut. General George Augustus Elliot.

Consumption be small, till they begin to Cut again, there is no Danger of it's growing worse, but the Contrary, & even when they Do begin to Cut, it will take a Long time to bring plenty to Market, the Experienc'd are so totally Dispers'd & Every Convenience Destroyed. I am

Since Finishing my Letter I find myself Indebted to my Kinsman John Riddell £40.3.10 Sterling which I beg you will pay to his Order.

Per the Pitt packet & Capt. Daverson & the Gosport ⁴²

New York 22d Sept: 1762

MR. JOHN RIDDELL, Scotland

DEAR SIR

My Last was of 12th May by the Pitt packet which I presume you must have receiv'd as the Vessell is return'd. I have not since receiv'd any of your favours, this, Next to the offering you my best Wishes & those of the family, serves principally to transmitt a state from the Beginning of your Long standing Acct: ballanc'd by a Credit on Sir William Baker for £40.3.10 Sterling which you will Make use of whenever it suits. I think Nothing in the Whole Transaction has Gone so ill as Capt: Toms muslins, but even that it was out of my power to Prevent, & the Robbery at Mr: Spencers made bad Worse, however tho' it's not in our Power to Redeem the Muslins, I hope a fund of Friendship remains, that may upon Occasions be an ample Equivolent & that is all we can say more on the Subject.

Per the Pitt packet & Capt. Daverson & the Gosport

⁴² H. M. S. *Gosport*, of 44 guns, Capt. J. Jervis, arrived at N. Y. from St. John's, on Oct. 13, 1762, and sailed a week later for Virginia, to take under her convoy ships for Great Britain. *N. Y. Mercury*, Oct. 18, 1762.

New York 23d Sep: 1762

MESSRS: LASSCELLES MAXWELL

GENT.

In my last of 11th & 14th August advising you that I had Drawn on our Friend Gedney Clark's Account One Bill to Moses Franks for £200 Sterling & another to Messrs. David Barclay & Sons for £150 Sterling I acknowledged'd the Receipt of your favour of 11th June & can now add another of 10th July. You will be pleas'd to honour a Bill I have drawn on you of this Date to Thomas Pearsall for £97 Sterling & Charge it as the rest to Gedney Clarke Esq: his Acct:, Remaining Due upon Gold allredy shipt him. The Exchange is very good, no Less than 95 per Ct: which is $2\frac{1}{2}$ more than we have Lately got, but being for a Particular sum & the Packet just Starting the Purchasor was Oblig'd to Submit. I Remain with Great Truth,

We hope the Havanna dearly earn'd, if Lives weigh any thing in the Scale of Politicks, will bring us a Good peace Per the Pitt packet, the Gosport & the Cygnet ⁴³

New York 9th October 1762

MR: JOHN RIDDELL, Virginia

SIR

I am indebted for your favour of 18th Ult: which came to hand a few days ago otherwise I should have answered it sooner, with respect to my little Adventure you may send it in Corn or Oates either of which are cheapest in their kind computing one with tother, as two is to three. I really should be at a loss to dabble in any great quantity of Corn as it is quite out of my way but I have no objection to five or six hundred Bushells so low as 2/ per Bushell providing the freight can be got

⁴³James Almes (Ames), commander, advertised that His Majesty's frigate *Cygnet* would carry cash to England. She sailed from Sandy Hook on Oct. 31, 1762, with several transports under her convoy. *N. Y. Mercury*, Oct. 18, Nov. 8, 1762.

tolerably reasonable as it strikes terribly deep into a Commodity of so little value and immediately upon notice of your having purchased it for me I will send a Bill for the Value. I have taken the liberty to recommend an old female Acquaintance of mine to your good Offices, she is a woman of reputation in all respects & may be dealt with in my opinion with great safety tho I do not apprehend she wants any Advance. I am

Per Mr. Otter & Capt. Jervis ⁴⁴

New York 16 October 1762

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

Inclosd is the third impress Bill for £86.12.3 Sterling & the first of General Gages on William Hopkins dated at Montreal 13th September for £130 Sterling which you will be pleased to pass to the Credit of Mr: Peter Delancey on Acct: of his Sons Expences.

You will likewise find enclosd Capt: Jarvis's Bill of Lading for three thousand half Johann. which you will please to pass to my Credit in a particular Acct: by itself as you will soon receive particular Directions concerning the disposition of it separte from my other Concerns. The small Bag of Silver you will mix with my general Acct: The Harriot Packet is arrivd but I have none of your favours to acknowledge. It is generally thought (we are told) a peace is approaching very fast, God grant it, the Miserys of Warr have rag'd long enough.

His Lordship ⁴⁵ is playing the Devil with us at the Havanna, obliges all Comers to part with their Bread and flour at his own price which is five Dollars per hundred for one and four for tother, which is not the first Cost and Charges, & when the Inhabitants would give the double for it, an Advantage it seems he takes to himself,

⁴⁴ Capt. J. Jervis, of the *Gosport*.

⁴⁵ George, Earl of Albemarle.

thro' a tool of his One Kennion, he lays besides a heavy duty ⁴⁶ on all goods besides prescribing his own price. No Arguments will move him, they call him a very Harpy, notwithstanding he has (they say undeservedly) made such a profitable Acquisition. Our General & our Governor both of them particularly encouragd people to send Adventures after the fleet and Army, that they might be in no danger of Want. Among other's, Mr: Cruger & myself sent a Vessel which escapd the risque both of the Enemy lying in the way & a dangerous Navigation, and luckily arrivd just as the place surrenderd, she carryd the encouragement G: Monckton gave us in writing under his own hand & had particular recommendations to Coll: Hale his Lordships Secretary, but nothing would do, he obligd the Capt: to take seven or eight pieces of Eight per Barrel for above a thousand Barrels of Bread & flour, when he could have got above the double of the Inhabitants, forbid any person to traffick with them, upon pain of imprisonment & obligd him to pay about Six hundred Dollars duty, the people of this Colony are stark mad about it, they furnish'd him with above five hundred men at the most critical time in order to enable him to make the Conquest, and as soon as it was made, he precluded every Mortal but himself or a Creature under him, from the least advantage that might possibly arise from the Acquisition, our Master is not returnd to inform us minutely how this oppression has been carryd on but we imagine instead of making a noble Voyage fairly earnd by running Risques, we shall loose some hundreds of pounds, the Market of Jamaica would have allowd us thirty or forty per Ct: more than was allowed us there without any Duty, or half the Risque. Surely there must be some releif for such oppression, tho the Bravery and skill of other people have put him in the Light of a Conqueror. I am with great truth,

You will be pleas'd to pay the proceeds or Value of the

⁴⁶ The duties at Havanna on importations are printed in the *N. Y. Mercury*, Oct. 4, 1762.

three thousand half Johannes's to Lord Gallway or his Order.

Per His Majesty's Ship Gosport & Cygnet

New York 16th October 1762

MR: SAM: HORNER

SIR

Not having heard from you of late I must beg leave to remind you of my Necessarys. Send them to Boston or Philadelphia if no Conveyance offers for this place. I was in hopes to have had them from Cork as two or three Ships were bound from thence hither. It must be an easy matter I presume to convey them from Dublin to that or any other neighbouring port. I am

Per Capt. Hamilton

New York 18th October 1762

MR: JOSHUA HOWELL

SIR

I receivd your favour of 30th Ult: with the Bill of Lading for Mr: Maynards Gold for which I thank you very heartily but I am afraid my West India Correspondent, as the people of that Climate are the most tenacious in the world will begrudge your Ship Master his uncommon freight of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct: tho but a trifle as we ship all the world over from one to two unless in Men of Warr & Capt: Whyte in a much more formidable Vessel had just before carryd it for two and asked no more however I am not a Bitt the less obligd to you for the trouble you have taken & remain very truly

Per Mr. Douw

New York 27th October 1762

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

We are Indeed a little unlucky in our Mails which often make a Breach in our Correspondence as we trust to the Packets as our only safe Conveyances. The Unlucky or Rather lucky Harriot is Tho got well back to us again & gives me an opportunity of thanking you for your favour of 13th August, by which I have the Mortification to find you grow old, if a failure of Memory be a Symptom of Years otherwise surely you cou'd not so soon have forgot a Transaction of so Late a Date as that Relating to our old Acquaintance Capt: Cosby, which as you Justly observe had some sporting Circumstances interwove in it, that I thought might have retain'd it Longer in your memory, but since some warmer Ideas have taken Place, I shall at the foot of this transcribe the Paragraph of your Letter of 28th August 1757, that will I beleive bring it back to your Remembrance.

You say Nothing of Irwin's Bill for £16 Sterling, wether it is Carry'd to our Joint Acct: as it ought to be, or wether it remains still a Charge to me as it ought not to be and till it is Explain'd I cannot settle with the concern'd. Do send me half a Peice of superfine Cloath with Lining &ca. sufficient for Three Suits Two or Three Rheams of very good Letter Paper, half a Dozen Pounds of very good red sealing wax, a pair of stone Buckells for a Girl in her Teens of a Guinea or Two, a Dozen pair of good ribb'd Mens Hose steel grey Colours rather Darkish for my own use which is I beleive about your size. Four Yards of uncut or flower'd black Velvet for Waist coats, & so much for Necessarys. The Whore Bird has disappointed my Girls of the Harpsicord & sent all the rest but that, Ledbetter the Master suspected the fellow as jealous of his money, but I can see no possible room for such a Construction.

I applyd to your father for an explanation of your general Intelligence to me but I find either hurry or an aged memory had left me to seek it in vain, the dis-

connection of our Ministry must naturally flatter the Enemy with great Advantages, but let him make a bad peace that dare, after the spirited recovery of (stolen) St: Johns & the wofull reduction of the Havanna, which has entirely broke the heart of the stoutest little Army in the world.

Your Hyde Park Generals it's said treated them with great contempt, because they were not high dressd, they had been too long away from St: James' to be fashionable, hard labour, in the Woods & Batteaus had soild their Cloths & discomposed the smart Cock, yet without such Troops, the most critical Arrival of the re-enforcements from hence, & the spirited behaviour of some of the Officers of the second Class, the Conquest had never been made, nor the place ours, but after it became ours in point of Government, it still remaind Spanish in oppression. You have an Account of the extortionate Dutys & Port Charges of a little Vessel & tho' every Body was encouragd to follow the fleet & Army with Provisions both by the General & Governor that the Expedition might allways have releif at hand, at the risque of the Adventurer, tho they carry'd that encouragment in writing, yet when the place was surrender'd, the Merchant was not only loaded with this oppressive Duty, but thē factor was forbid under pain of imprisonment to trade with the Inhabitants & obligd to deliver his Goods for half the Value to one Kennion a Creature appointed for the purpose, an Agent of Touchet, who supplyd their Contract if any Contract they had, in this unheard of way & receivd all the Benefit of supplying both Spanish Inhabitants & Traders at the Expençe of the fair Adventurer.

The difference was monstrous. Mr: Cruger & myself lost by this means about three thousand pounds on one small Cargo after so fairly venturing for it. The Vessel arrivd just as the place surrenderd. So ungenerous were they, that they did not allow the first Cost & Charges on an Average, they allowd four Dollars per Ct:, which came to about seven Dollars a Barrel, it cost on a medium

more & would have sold for above the double. Memorials were preferrd to the great—— Man but he would grant no redress nay was so violent & Arbitrary, that Access was generally denyd & liberty of speaking also allmost without exception. The Broomstick Colonels told our Captain they could not blame him, the Money except his small fee, went all to [blank].

Can no compensation be obtained for such Abuses, I wish you could put us in the way we should not stick at Expence, had it been a *Wolfe* one would hardly have begrudgd it, but —— I wish I dare, & I wish I had power too, equal to my resentment.

Being well acquainted with Coll: Hale I wrote to him & recommended my Interest to his protection, if it should be necessary, not in the least suspecting what followd, but if I had wrote to the Lord Jehovah, so keen was the Appetite, he could not have savd us from the Jaws of Destruction, otherwise than Ulysses was savd from the great one ey'd Man to be eat last, the Sentence it seems was irreversible & the Bowells of Steele. I am allways

Pray Ordre by the first Vessel in the Spring to Gov: Murray at Quebec 12 Gallons of the best Sainfoin Grass Seed, 30 pounds of Lucern Grass Seed. Charge it to me and let me know the Cost.

Per the Cygnet

New York 3d November 1762

MESSRS: SMITH & NUTT

GENT:

I am indebted for both your favours of 6th Ult: with the rough Rice, for which I am obligd to you, as well for the directions how to use it as for the food itself. The Letter for Mr. Brymer is gone forward. I sincerely wish his Supplys may get safe up to Quebec, it will otherwise be a great disappointment. Major Rogers says he will

pay the Bill. Exchange is extremely high from $92\frac{1}{2}$ to 95 per Ct: The Provision Vouchers you mention are not yet got to hand.

We have nothing new, the Recovery of Newfoundland cannot be so, the Enemy behaved very sorrowfully to be taken so instantaneously, by a parcel of poor reduced Troops & Cripples. Coll: Amherst had in reality but about five hundred good Troops & they Eight, his whole number of Regulars exceeded theirs but a trifle, Signal Hill that might have been defended with the three hundred Men they had upon it against almost any number that could be brought against it, was taken by seventy of the Martinique recovered Men & a simple Company of Provincials.

The Ships too that were really a fair match for Lord Colvill stole away so shabily, leaving Cables, Anchors, Boats &c: & even the Grenadiers, they were to have embarked, that it becomes a striking Instance how low the Spirit of the nation is fallen, & yet what is very odd, both Land & Sea expect great promotion for the mighty Feats they achieved, tho the one goes home in Captivity & the other sneaked off like a thief in the night. I am very truly

The Scurvy Inhabitants both when the place was taken & retaken betrayed a manifest attachment to the Enemy, not one of them gave any intelligence to the Colonel, tho it was evidently in their power, except in a single Instance, that was in fact not true, the Enemy they embraced with open Arms.

New York 4th Nov: 1762

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

Since the foregoing of 10th Sep: I have none of your favours. The 60 Half Johannes's & $5\frac{3}{4}$ Dollars. Shipt you by Joshua Howell in my behalf per the Brigantine Fanny Capt: Hymers, I hope is got safe. I am still without the Necessary papers to settle the Capture of the

Little Molly. They must be clear & Regular. Rum is about 4/4 per Gallon not a great Deal at Markett nor the Consumption very Considerable. I am

Via Philadelphia to Mr. Allens Care

New York 5th Nov: 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

The Inclos'd I pick'd up at the Coffee House a few Hours ago, from whom I know not. I have Credited you £130.7.1 Barbados Money at 25 per Ct: £162.18.10 This for General Monckton's Acct:, & Drew on Messrs: Lasscelles & Maxwell 23d September for £97 Sterling at 95 per Ct: which is £189.3.0. Currency, in favour of Thomas Pearsall, which is the last Bill I shall draw for what is Past. The Lyon I find got safe to Martinique & so did Capt: White I hope to Barbados. I am with Great Truth

Via Philadelphia to Mr. Allens Care

New York 15th Nov: 1762

MAJOR ROBERT ROGERS

SIR

I Rec'd your Letter from Long Island without a Date with The two attending it, which have been properly dispos'd of.

It will by no means suit me to Receive the money for your bill in New Hampshire as I know of no method to Convey it hither, besides you must be sensible the money is Immediately payable in New York, as you have Drawn the Bill & therefore I cannot answer Receiving it on the Gentlemens Accounts who remitted it me any where else, but hope you will give orders to discharge it here or send the Money as best suits you, This being the Tenour of Engagement. I am

N. York 22d November 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

I was unwilling to be constantly troubling you with difficultys while the Affair of the Hallifax freight was depending, which at last I have brought to a conclusion in the best manner I was able, tho not quite so well as I could have wishd. When the point of N York Money was yielded, then Hallifax Money was insisted on & even the Warrant orderd, but I absolutely refusd to receive it & by waiting again on the General got it alterd to Sterling, but when I hopd to have got either a Sterling Bill or an equivalent in this Currancy I was obliged to accept it at $4/8$ a Dollar, as all payments run, without any regard to the fluctuation of Exchange. For a good while I declind receiving the Money even on this footing, but finding any further struggle vain & fearing something worse might intervene, at last I thought it most adviseable to finish the Affair in the manner I have done, & can with great truth assure you 'twas the best I could do had the property been my own. Inclos'd is your Acct: Ballance £163.19.11 $\frac{1}{4}$.

I applyd to Mr: Apthorp to know if he wanted a Draught on Boston for the Value but it seems his demands lay tother way, he would draw himself possibly you may meet with somebody who may draw on this place for so small a Sum.

As I could get but 70 per Ct: for the Impress Bill I remitted it to Sir William Baker at 75 per Ct: if you like it better on you own Acct: I can at any time order him to pass the Value when receivd to your Credit, I have been enquiring about your Son & had some Conversation with Coll: Amherst on his Situation & Services, the Army you must observe has been entirely out of General Amherst's hands since it left this place, but I am told your Son has made a purchase of a Company in some other Corpse how true I cannot venture to say as my information is pretty slight, the next post shall clear it up, nor can I find whether the Diamond is among the

Ships daily dropping in, a few days will clear that up too. Would you have her sent Home to Boston if she be dischargd here which I am apprehensive will be the case, as she was taken up here. I shall observe your hint in respect to the Captain & remain in very great haste

Per post

New York 27th November 1762

MR: JOHN RIDDELL, Virginia

SIR

Capt: Webb has deliverd the Oats which I beleive will do my Business for the present, tis confounded gritty, we are forc'd to pass it all thro' a Seive, when your folks are richer & can construct Barns I suppose that evil will be remedyd. Corn I cannot think will answer, it allways is to be bought cheaper than imported, our own that is much preferable to yours has sold for 4/ & under, which is less than it will cost from Virginia even at 2/, the freight is a burthen these light Commodity's cannot bear. The Oats you sent me stands in 3/6 or thereabouts, the very same I could buy for 2/9, such is the course of this kind of Business.

Mr: Isaac Young-Husband has a Wench of mine in his hands call'd Belinda middle agd but not very comely, she is a simple innocent Creature & a very good Cook, has lived long in my family & indeed was a most necessary Servant, but her simplicity led her to trifle about charms which alarmd my female family too much to keep her. Mr: Young-Husband informs me that he cannot sell her to Neat above £25 Virginia Currancy & desires directions what to do, for my own part I am at a loss what to say & therefore beg you'l act for me as you would for yourself in the like case. When she is sold, send or order back any thing you judge will answer best for the Value. Inclosed is a Letter for him to follow your directions which pray seal & forward for me. I did not mean to recommend a Lady to you in person, but presumd you might do a

Ladys Business. I beg you will receive for & deliver to Capt: Otter the five Pistoles I have sent by Webb per Receipt. I have no connections with him at all, but Compassion led me to advance this Money, as I believe poor man, he much wants it

Per Capt: Webb

New York 27th November 1762

MR: ISAAC YOUNG-HUSBAND

SIR

As you can neither return nor sell my Wench Belinda unless you part with her for a trifle & desire directions, which I really am at a Loss how to give, I have askd Messrs: George & John Riddell to be so kind as to represent me in the Affair & to act just as they would in a like case for themselves. You will therefore follow their Orders, sell her as they may direct, or dispose of her in any other manner they may think most proper & you will oblige

inclos'd to Messrs. Riddell

New York 27th November 1762

LIEUT: GEORGE OTTER OF 60TH REGIMENT

SIR

I have sent by Capt: Webb as you desire not twenty Dollars because I am told Silver does not answer but as near the Value as I could readily get it in Gold which is one double Loon & One Pistole the Value here something better than Seven Pounds the Pistole being something heavier in proportion than the four pistole piece. I hope this will serve your purpose & that you may preserve your health to enjoy it & am

Per Capt: Web

New York 29th November 1762

JOHN ERVING Esq:

SIR

I wrote you fully the 22d by the Post & in a seperate Sheet given to the Rider informed you that your Son had made a purchase in Montgomeries for £1100 Sterling & was expected here every hour, a pretty many of the Transports have dropt in since but the Intrepid with about half of them is still out and your Son of the Number, however all of them must probably be with us soon. I am sorry to tell you that your other son James paying a Visit to his Brother at the Havanna dyed there in a very short time, these are Afflictions allmost every parent suffers that has a number of Children & by the frequency of the misfortune we are taught to bear it as we ought to do with steadiness and resignation. The Diamond is got here, Mackay very low & weak; as I suspected she is entirely thrown upon our hands being the Port she was taken up at, forcibly enough God knows. I shall be preparing her for Boston & by the Post shall no doubt have your farther Sentiments about her, at the same time I hope your directions will come for the disposition of the Impress Bill for her Earnings.

Pray be so kind as to get an order if you can from Major Rogers on this place for the Value of the inclosd Bill drawn by himself on himself for £23 Sterling he desires me by Letter to receive it at Portsmouth New Hampshire but I declin'd doing it, as troublesome, however if better cant be done pray be so kind as to receive the Money, as it ought to be paid here Exchange 92½ to 95 per Ct: Dollars 8/. I find there are pretty many other Bills on him, and therefore I would get rid of this triffling Business as soon as I can. I am

New York 30th November 1762

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

Since my last of 16th Ult: per the Gosport a Copy of which went by the Cygnet Frigate, I am favoured with yours of 23d July per Davis.

I hope the Bill for £200 remitted by Williams from Antigo may be accepted or it will be I am afraid a dead loss up us, by the meer stupidity of our factor as the drawer is since faild, for which reason any terms of acceptance will be lucky.

I saw some price Currents just arrivd by the Packet, make Nicorago £17 in September if that be the case possibly you may be releivd of mine. Inclosd is Capt: Peyton⁴⁷ of the Frigate Minerva his Pursers Bill of Lading for three thousand half Johannes more, the Proceeds of which you will be pleasd to pay also to Lord Gallway or his order.

We have nothing new to tell you, the poor remains of our Provincials are dropping in from the Havanna, 'tis melancholy to behold the Effects of that ill conducted destructive expedition, that has been an advantage to no body but a few of the Leaders, those by Sea they say deservd it, but those by Land seem to be universally dislikd, especially the Chief who they call a meer Cormorant, not to be satiated nor caring a farthing about the means so that he can but come at the end. I send you the modest Destribution of that Acquisition & remain with the greatest regard

Per the Minerva & the Hallifax packet

New York 30th November 1762

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

I am to thank you for your favour of 10th September which to my great pleasure seems to wear the agreeable face of Peace abroad, tho Warr rages at Home.

⁴⁷ Joseph Peyton, commander of the 32-gun frigate, *Minerva*. Beatson, *Naval and Military Memoirs*, III, 435.

Our happy Constitution like all others under the Sun has its defects, & sweet Liberty often degenerates into Licentiousness, but what shall we say, giving up the one to prevent the other, would be like knocking a Man in the head to cure him of pain, it would effectively do it to be sure, but tis a remedy few people would be fond of. The Harpsicord Man writes the Tweedle Dee Man here, that he fears the Instrument will fall upon his hands bespoke for my Girls, is not this queer? You have given great concern to a very cleaver Woman by protesting Mr: Hunter's Bill, the damage is considerable. Out of meer diffidence and Modesty, the poor Woman said not a Sylable either to me or Mr: Cruger or we could have set all right in a word. She is fit to be trusted for any Sum, vastly sober, industrious and discreet. If you have not allready alterd it let Irwins Bill remain chargd to me & I will settle it here. Look over your Letter to me concerning the Conditions of the Insurance on the St: George to Leghorne & you'll find the Insurors are to return me 2 per Ct: as she did not proceed to Venice. I can tell you nothing new, they say the great little Man goes on scraping at the H—a & takes every method to earn a penny. I hope he'll slip his wind there yet & not enjoy the fruits of his underservd, ill got wealth.

I shall get something at last by my gaming in the Stocks I see, if John Bulls back dont crack, he must be a meer Atlas.

Per the Harriot & the Minerva frigate

New York 1st December 1762

SIR CHARLES HARDY

SIR

Your friends here were very much surprizd & not less concernd at the change of Government in the Jersys ⁴⁸

⁴⁸ Josiah Hardy, brother of Sir Charles Hardy, was removed from the government of New Jersey, and succeeded by William Franklin, because he continued the commissions of the three judges of the Supreme Court *during good behavior*, instead of *during pleasure*. See *New Jersey Archives*, 1st ser., vol. I.

which came upon us like a Thunder Clap (without any warning) in the Papers. It was generally thought the Gust was over occasiond by the Judges Commissions being continu'd to them on the same tenour they had formerly held them. We had heard the Board had took it up very high, but had also heard considering it had been so long the practice, they were content to be satisfy'd with a reprehension for what was past, & to prescribe a positive injunction for the time to come, this was thought but candid & just considering what had been the long & unexcepted practice of most Governors. Your Brothers predecessor Mr: Morris had not only granted such Commissions to the Judges but to every Crown Officer in that way such as Clerks of Countys &c.: Mr: Belcher I have been told did the same & both not only without impunity, but without the least chiding. Mr: Clinton here appointed Mr: Delancey Mr: Chambers & Mr: Horsemanden you well remember, & so far from being punish'd or reprov'd, that his Majesty by his Secretary of State the Duke of Bedford, express'd his Approbation & Confirmation of Mr: Chamber's, & would no doubt have done the same by the rest had the same Application been made before Mr: Clinton's Administration had run too high into party.

Mr: Delancey a few years ago appointed Judge Jones in the same manner with advice of Council & never had the least disapprobation of his Conduct so much as hinted to him for it. Mr: Monekton in Council declar'd (before old Colden excit'd all this ill blood) that if he had been left to his own Judgment he certainly should have continu'd the Judges as they stood before, not supposing the Crown would desire an old Servant to be as it were degraded, with respect to the new Commissions, he should have been more cautious & taken farther directions of his Majesty or his Minister. These were his Sentiments before the Clamours arose at Home, fomented from this Colony. But if I guess right, it is not so much the Measure as the Man in your Brothers Case, & I own to you it would have been well, if he had consider'd the

matter a little more thoroughly, but I beleive the whole Body of People, Council, and Assembly were so intent upon it, that to keep his Government easie he yeilded, from a Complacency of temper, that neither himself nor those about him imagind would have had such disagreeable consequences. You cannot think how all orders of people are chagrind at such a violent step, especially taking in the rank of the Successor, which seems to be a Burlesque on all Government, if it is not treason to say so, when such high Personages have thought fit to do it. The Minerva Capt: Peyton sails in a day or two I have put a Letter from your Brother for you in his Bag, he did not know the sudden departure of this Packet. Some of our Privateers were hovering about a Fleet of French Merchantmen just saild from the Cape to the number of three and twenty with two or three frigates in Convoy, they had pickd up four, some say nine, when Commodore Keppel hove in sight and made a fair sweep of the rest.

Per the Minerva frigate

New York 2d December 1762

MESSRS: SMITH & NUTT

GENT:

On the 3d Ult: I answered your favours of 6th Oct:, Major Rogers went away without paying the Bill, but I have sent it after him to Boston to be receivd. Your favour to D. & W. came to hand a few days ago with the Vouchers, which the Commissary has before him. We could wish to hear of the Arrivale of the two Vessels with Rice to Quebec. I am

Per Mr. Franklins & Doc. Vansolings vessels

New York 2d December 1762

MESSRS: WILLING MORRIS & Co:

GENT:

I have not heard one Syllable of the Charming Beckie nor of Mr: Clarke respecting her she might I imagine be loaded with Lumber easie enough for about £7 per thousand the Staves round, Exchange $92\frac{1}{2}$ to 95 per Ct: Freight is never to be had in any Quantity hence to Barbados. By some other opportunity if I hear any thing deserving your notice it shall be told you at present the Post does not allow me time. I am

New York 2d December 1762

MR: THOS: PENINGTON & SON

GENT:

I am to thank you for the Ale & Cheese by the Cape Briton & to beg you will repeat the Supply when a proper opportunity presents. Mr: James Neilson of Brunswyck N Jersey desires me to remit the inclosd Bill on his Acct: drawn by Delancey & Watts on Sir James Colebrooke & Partners Value £300 Sterling payable to you for his use. The Bag is allready gone & the opportunity of conveying this Letter does not allow me a word more than to subscribe myself

Per the Minerva, the Packet & Capt: Ashfield ⁴⁹

New York 6th December 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

I am favoured with yours of 29th Ult: & am very sensible of the Justness of your reasoning with respect to the

⁴⁹ V. Pearse Ashfield, master of the snow *Garland*, who advertised for freight and passengers for Bristol. *N. Y. Gazette*, Dec. 2, 9, 16, and 23, 1762; *N. Y. Mercury*, Dec. 13, 1762.

Freight of the Snow from Hallifax and did not fail to offer every Argument in my power to support it, but as I have already said, it was labour in vain, nay it was hinted to me that I might esteem what I did receive as a favour. I have heard nothing since of your young Soldier some of the Transports are yet out. I shall try the Snow at Sale this Week. Mackays illness has retarded her dispatch. I beleive I forgot mentioning my Draught to Mr: Allcocke for £36.3.3 Lawful equal to £48.4.4 this. Dont give yourself any trouble about the trifling Balance we shall settle it some how or other e'er long. I am

New York 13th December 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

I referr to mine of 6th Inst: Your favour of the same date is since come to hand by the Post. We are this day to try the Snow at Sale & if she will reach twelve hundred pounds I propose to let her go, tho I do not beleive she will. Vessels are very plenty & very useless, Commerce being so extremely confind and interrupted. The Snow by this time, tho she may have been faithfully built and liberally fitted, must feel the Effects of time & therefore in my Judgment, it is your Interest to part with her, & I hope she may sell accordingly. Capt: Hale of the Intrepid tells me that he orderd Capt: Cob's Sloop, in which I find your Son embarkd, to attend two Leaky Vessels to Providence & then to proceed immediately hither, since which (this minute he informs me) he has not heard any thing of her. If the Snow does not sell Capt: Mackay says he is ready to proceed Home & proposes going through the Sound taking a Pilot to morrow or next day. If our Scheme of selling is determind before the Post sets out you shall know it by a seperate line or two. I am very truely

New York 16th Dec. 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

Your Snow has not sold. Vessels are in so Little Demand that with all her Expensive Stores, she wou'd not fetch five hundred pounds Sterling. I imagin'd she wou'd have been saild e'er this, but impediments of one kind or other together with the Masters indisposition, have unexpectldly prevented it, however to morrow or next day he Assures me she shall go through the sound with a Proper Pilot & I choose to give you this certain intelligence that if you dislike the risque that attends this Late cold season of the Year, you may Cover any part of it you Please.

Not a Word yet of Capt: Cob's Sloop. I remain with regard

New York 16th Dec. 1762

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

As I don't Esteem the above Copy worth any Thing I sho'd not send it, if it enhanc'd the Postage, but so far I think it is unexceptionable. By a Correspondence with Gen: Murray I am sometimes call'd upon for particulars not to be furnish'd here, among the rest he Desires a Safe or Save for the reception of meat to guard it from the Multiplicity of Insects That prevail in Canada. It must in the Sides & I beleive in front too if not in rear, be wove with fine Wire to admit the air, while it Excludes all Tresspassers. No Doubt these machines are Common in England & I beg you wou'd send him One by the first Vessels in the Spring, with the twelve Gallons of best Sainfoin & 30 pounds of Lucerne Grass seed, I before desir'd. And while your hand is in be so good as to add to the Things I order'd for my self a Couple of Dozen of green or White handled Knives & forks for my family's use, I mean the full Dozen or Twice Twelve of Each. Mr: Baker formerly sent me some very Good

at a Guinea The Dozen. An honest Neighbour of mine desires I wou'd recommend him to you about some impress Bills belonging to the Estate of a Captain Tenning's who Dyed on the Wofull Havanna Expedition, that you wou'd be so kind as to take them under your Directions, till the proper Claimants appear. He will tell you what is Necessary, which of Course renders Unnecessary Whatever I can say & therefore to him I beg to be reffer'd, & am

N. B. This by Capt. Davis only, Do add to my Budget 3 or 4 Patterns of Stocking Stuff, black, for Breeches, good & Strong as strong can be.

Per the Hallifax packet & Capt: Davis

New York 20th December 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ.

SIR

The above was design'd by the Thursdays post, but they sent me word none went. I have the Mortification to tell you the snow is still here having been detain'd by a Dispute the Master had with the Commissary of Provisions about the Quantity which seems very Confus'd. I advis'd him to send the Vessel away with the Mate but he Declines it & says he will embrace the First wind. I heartily wish she was with you, but will take care she shall run you to as little Expence as possible.

There is a report that Captain Cobs sloops & the two Vessells with her were got to Providence & am

New York 20th December 1762

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

This goes inclos'd to my friend Will: Allen Esq: with a hundred half Johannes's to be forwarded from Phila-

delphia by the safest and best Conveyance that offers being somewhere about the Value of the Little Mollys freight to Martineco. I hope Capt: Hymers has deliverd you his Money safe.

I have receivd your Papers & Albouy is here, but the Insu[r]ers on Vessel refuse to pay any more than the Vessels proportion of Ransom, & offer to leave it to reference which I think to do, as the most speedy & just determination, rather than be put to the expence of two or three lingering Law suits, that may be spun out for Years in the way the Law is here.

I have paid your Bill to Capt: Albouy for £55.18.5 this Currancy. It has not been in my power to make your remittances faster than I have done, I have advanced even beyond Order, on Cargo, & have remitted about the whole, the Freight could not be remitted till Mr. Rufane's Certificate was sent me, which came but a few days ago, & the Insurance is not due till three Months after Proof of Loss. I shall write to you more fully soon & till then remain

The Insurors I am sure will not tamely refund the premium from Martinique to Barbados, as whether sold or not sold the property was yours from one place to tother, but I dare not touch on this till tother is ended. Original per Capt: White from Philadelphia, Duplicate to Mr. Allens care.

New York 21st December 1762

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

My last was 5th Nov: thro Philadelphia since which I find I have your favour to acknowledge of 11th Oct: & I beleive in point of date another of 13th Aug: tho in substance I imagine it must be allready answerd. You have my hearty thanks for your friendship in the adventure with Gwillim. It is all of a piece from the beginning to the end. I never desire to be persecuted with such another transaction & should not be at all sur-

prizd to hear that the Master (Brag) was involvd in endless difficultys too. I have not a line from the Original of all this Confusion Mr: Astin, but he has drawn again for Seamens Wages which I shall not pay till I see how matters terminate at Barbados, if all ends properly there I shall have about a hundred pounds to answer his Draughts.

I told you in my last that you was Credited £130.7.1 Barbados Money, £162.18.10 in this, for General Moncktons Account of Necessarys & that I had drawn on L. & M. for £97 Sterling in favour of Thomas Pearsall at 95 per Ct: Exchange, the last Draught for what was past. The General continues very hearty tho his old Canadian Wound ⁵⁰ lately broke out again, is very much esteemd, & often speaks with great respect of the Civilitys receivd at your hands. Jack Clarke I have been informd has bought a Company in the 46th & Coll: Burton tells me when he left the Havanna the latter end of Oct: was very ill, tho I hope by this time he may be got well again, he has Youth of his Side & is habituated to a Southern Clime.

I quite forgot your two Hats but will order them to be made immediatly tho I must tell you tis the fashion here to get those very few that are used from Philadelphia.

Whenever your Affairs will permit a relaxation, we shall be extremely glad to have you near us, but I am afraid an Assemblage of interesting Affairs will not be so easily thrown off, even should a proper Successor offer. Business becomes in a manner a part of the Constitution, & requires both time & resolution to form a Separation. In theory I am just of your way of thinking, my family are young, the Eldest a Youth not twenty, I am training up to take the Burthen off my hands, & am very positive in my ideal determinations, but how it will be in practice I dont so well know. I have a Daughter of Eighteen &

⁵⁰ Gen. Monckton was shot through the body during the siege of Quebec, on Sept. 13, 1759, the same day that Gen. Wolfe received his mortal wound. Beatson, *Naval and Military Memoirs*, II, 301.

so they run in a pretty close Succession to the number of Seven, which I fancy will cut me out work enough till they are all provided for. My friend Allen⁵¹ has four Sons & two Daughters the eldest a fine Girl of about Sixteen, the other two or three years younger. His eldest Son about two or three & twenty just returned from his Travells, & just in the Situation with your eldest, brought up to Business, but I believe pretty well weaned by his rambles & his fathers successful Industry, two of the others are Men grown both bred to the Law & both now in the Temple, the fourth is a young boy. I believe the father takes Consignments with some Associate, he is Chief Justice of the Province. Mr: Turner⁵² was his former partner, never was any Man more intent upon any thing he sets about or more sincere, warm & generous in his Attachments. But I fancy I have satisfied your Curiosity by this time. My Papers tells me I have gone far enough.

Original per Capt. White from Philadelphia Duplicate to Mr. Allens care

New York 21st December 1762

MR: SAM: HORNER

SIR

I have it at last in my power to thank you for my Linnen & my Shoes but by the negligence of the vile Master they are come in very bad order being stowed among the Coal & suffered by downright carelessness to get wet however that is neither your fault or mine. The Consumption of Provisions is reduced to a mere Trifle in this Department, most of the military being removed & many of the upper post, such as Niagara, Oswego, Crown

⁵¹ The children of William Allen, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and his wife Margaret (Hamilton) Allen, were two daughters, Anne and Margaret; and four sons, John, Andrew, James, and William. Chas. P. Keith, *Provincial Councillors of Pennsylvania*, (Philadelphia, 1883), pp. 140-54; E. F. DeLancey, "Chief Justice William Allen," in *Pennsylvania Mag. of Hist.*, I, 202-211.

⁵² Joseph Turner (1701-1783). C. P. Keith, *Provincial Councillors of Pennsylvania*, 141, 220-21.

Point & Ticonderoga, the most respectable we have are Victualled through the St: Lawrence River. I am very truly

New York 27th Dec. 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

I am to Thank you for your favour of 20th Instant. I have a Letter of the 17th by the same post from Major Rogers, he writes me that he has paid the Bill for £23 to Mr. Neven but your freind I find has given him some offence which I never intended. I meant no more than to get rid of a trifling Affair in which I was merely acting for Another. It's true I had heard there were other Bills on him, besides the Inconsiderable one sent to me, but there was no Occasion to Tell him so, as it Cou'd be of no Use. I am Glad to find by your Letter that your Son is Well at Providence. The Sloop he was in Does not yet make her Appearance. Your poor Stupid Master has been waiting some Days for proper Weather to Proceed home, after I had left him to himself, hoping to Keep you out of the Scrape & When I found that was impossible, after all I Cou'd say or Do with the Commissary of Provisions, before we Cou'd Settle with him in order to get the Impress Bills I was Oblig'd to sign An Obligation to Lodge in the Kings Stores on Demand 2054½ pounds of Pork, 230 pounds flour & 3 gallons 29 Gills Rum, which were deficient by irregular Issues, & have taken the inclos'd Obligation to you as the only indemnification I Could think on, being allready heartily tird of the Captains illness & Slowness & the Detention of the Vessell & Without my entering into such Obligations The Impress Bills Cou'd not be Obtain'd, so that both Necessity & your Interest oblig'd me to submit to a Thing I would otherwise by all means have avoided & did avoid as Long as I cou'd.

I have paid for Provisions & some other Little Necessaries between Thirty & Forty Pounds, but have abso-

lutely told the Captain if he runs in Debt for one Unnecessary Shilling I wou'd not Pay it. I wish the Vessell was got Home, for while she is abroad I am perswaded she will be both a plague & an Expence to You. The Seamen have been Threatning again, but They found nothing was to be got by it. I allways am

New York 29th December 1762

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

I wrote you by the Post on Monday Last & then Thought I had Done with the Expences of Your Snow, but just on parting Captain Mackay produc'd two more Accounts for Disbursments Wages &c. on which I paid him Thirty Five pounds as it was in Vain to Refuse them, the Vessell cou'd not stirr without it. These Accounts with all the Rest you have inclosd amounting to £70.1.11 Certifyd by the Master in one Generall Account. I have Likewise inclos'd the Inventory of the Vessell when she was up at Sale, by which you will see how her Stores & Furniture where then represented. I must referr you to the Master for Particulars & for his own Justification, his Illness to be sure is some plea & when I Desired to know why the Vessell cou'd not proceed without him, he assured me the Men wou'd not stirr & it gave them a Quibble I found in the Law which they where well Appriz'd of, & wou'd readily have Embrac'd. This is without Doubt the worst port in the English Dominions for Seamen.

I have been offer'd 70 per Ct: for the Impress Bill & propose taking it if I can't obtain more favourable Terms, which I am trying to do, As you Don't disapprove of our Exchange, & by that means I can at once end your trouble as far as it is in my power, by Mr. Apthorp's Bill on Boston for the Ballance. In the Meantime beleive me

New York 3d January 1763

MR. JOHN STRIPPLING, Boston

SIR

I rec'd yours of 4th Ult: with the Inclos'd for Mr. Nelil which I must send to Philadelphia for a Conveyance to Barbados, as we have Little or no intercourse to that Island from Hence. I am not acquainted with Either Mr. Wiles, Mr: Roacke or Mr Mead nor Know whether They have been here Lately but I presume not from the Reason I have given above of our having Little or no Communication, with that Island. Philadelphia has a Great Deal. I am

Per post

New York 10th January 1763

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

I referr to my last of 20th Ult. both Original & Copy Via Philadelphia with a hundred half Johannes's which my friend Mr: Allen writes me were to go by the Ship Hamilton Capt: White. A few days ago I sent him a hundred half Johannes more to be sent you by the safest & best Conveyance from thence also, as no opportunitys offer from hence. If both these Sums should go in one Vessel I propose insuring about the Value of one of them supposing you would not incline to run the whole risque & in future I should be glad to know your Sentiments about Insurance that I may act with more confidence & Certainty. Let me only know what risque you would at any time choose to run in one Bottom, the rest may allways be Insur'd. I have not yet been able to do any thing with the Insurors about the Vessel, they are very much dissatisfyd & to compel them by Law will be a tedious expensive uncertain experiment. Their own proposal of Arbitration which upon Consideration I accepted of, does not now seem to relish so well with the Majority of them, however I shall for a while continue to try what Lenitives

will do, before I get into a number of vexatious Suits, that no Mortal can see thro' or know when or where they will end. Rum is rise much a Cargo of good Proof I believe would run off for about Six shillings if it got here before the New Crop was too near at hand. I am

Via Philadelphia

New York 11th January 1763

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

The foregoing went by your Diamond which was detain'd just long enough to loose the good weather & get into the bad I hope however you will see her safe at last. I have parted with your Impress Bill or Certificate to Walter & Samuel Franklin for 70 per Ct: Exchange the most I could get & was then oblig'd to allow three weeks Credit or not part with it at all, people growing more indifferent to these kind of Draughts. Her Hire from 7th June to 26th November at 13/ a Month for 133 $\frac{1}{4}$ Tons amounting to £487.18.4 from whence deducting £86.12.3 a Months Advance there remains £401.6.1 Sterling which at 70 per Ct: is £682.4.4 Currency & in part of which you have now inclos'd Mr: Bayards Bill on Mr: Wheelright for four hundred pounds equal to a thousand Dollars the remainder I will settle as soon as I can at present it cannot be on Account of Mackays deficient Provisions. I am much oblig'd to you for settling with Major Rogers I did not intend it should give you so much trouble. If you mean to complain it must not be to this tribunal, your case is bad enough, but there have been many infinitely worse complain'd of, oppos'd & in some measure resisted, but all in vain. I am very truly

Pray tell me what I am to charge you for the 13 Gold pieces, lacking 8/ what are they worth at Boston, or shall it be as they pass here.

New York 10th January 1763

JOHN KENNION ESQ:

SIR

Inclosd is the Account Sales of the three hundred Chests of Sugar per the Brigantine Pompey Capt: Colgan on our Joint Account ⁵³ Netting £3099.1.3 a Moity of which is carryd to your Credit in Account Current likewise inclosd, casting a Ballance of £177.3.7½ in your favour. As we found it could answer no end to keep the Sugar for a Market, Supplys daily arriving, no encouragement for Exportation & the price rather too high for the refiners, while French Sugars were to be purchased on easier Terms We thought it most eligible to close the Sales at publick Auction, the way Goods of all kinds go off best in Quantitys when the Sale is properly conducted, which we can with great truth say this was, & the most obtaind that the Market then (or since has) afforded, by becoming purchasers ourselves & by getting others to promote the Sales. For particulars we must referr you to the Auctioneers Accompt now transmitted. When a Settlement is made concerning the Duty upon Export if you will be pleasd to give directions to your Correspondent here & send a State of that matter, the whole shall be finished without any farther trouble. We are

Per the Transport

New York 23d January 1763

MR: JOHN BERMINGHAM

SIR

I have not had it in my power to answer your favour of 14th Sept: last sooner, so rare are opportunitys from hence to your part of the World.

Inclosd is another Account Sales of your Rum by Chenevard & your Account Current. It was unlucky that not one of the three I before forwarded should reach you.

⁵³ Of Henry Cruger and John Watts.

The Sales I beleive you will not think bad, the critical time was not lost to make the most of it. I am

Per Mr. Gouverneurs Brig

New York 24th January 1763

THOMAS ASTIN ESQ:

SIR

Inclosd is the Account Sales of your Rum which I would have sent before had an opportunity offerd to your unfrequented part of the World. In spite of all my Caution I am afraid the hhd: to Thomas Moore the third of May will prove bad. It was uphill work getting the latter part of the Cargo off. Some of the Money is not paid even yet. Inclosed is likewise your Account Ballance in my favour £296.11.7. to this day I know not whether the Bottom'ry Bill is paid or no, the last time I heard from Mr: Clarke it was not, whenever I am inform'd it is, the Seamens Bills you last sent shall be dischargd, but I have been too long & too much in advance to do it before. I am

Per Mr. Gouverneurs Brig

New York 27th January 1763

JOHN KENNION ESQ:

SIR

Since the foregoing we are Debtors for your favour of 25th Ult: address'd to Mr: Cruger singly. In expectation of giving you a complete State of the Adventure at one View, we from time to time postpon'd writing, till we must own the distance of time became rather too great.

The unprecedented oppressions we sufferd during the whole course of that unparelelld Voyage, we confess excited in us no Ideas of Gratitude, whatever they might of resentment, we never so much as conceivd under the

milder influence of English Liberty & Justice, the Spirit of a Government could have remain'd (so odious to the very genius of the Brittish Constitution) when it had once changd its Masters, otherwise we should just as soon have put ourselves in the power of one as of tother, however Sir in the more disagreeable Situation our Interest was unexpectedly plungd, the more are we obligd to you for any favours shewn us, & you may be assur'd nothing but the Ignorance of it, could have prevented a due acknowledgment, but permit us to say the Adventure of the Sugars does not appear to us in that light, being purchasd with our own Money, long enough waited for & dearly earnd God knows, if an oppressive restraint on Commerce could make it so. You'll pardon our freedom, losers are apt to complain, changing property cleaverly agreeable to the Laws & usage of an English Constitution, is all fair, but to have it extorted in an unexempl'd way, is the Devil, & must sting the Sufferers, was it a Shilling instead of thousands. The Auctioneer being unwell we cannot at present get another Account of particulars. We are

We have presented your Compliments to Mr: Vallette, he is here & well.

Per the [blank] transport, Copy per Mr. Houston

New York 27th January 1763

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

My last was 30th Nov: Original per the Minerva Frigate, Copy by the Packet. I am since favour'd with yours of 21st Oct: & 12th Nov: per the Pitt Packet, the first a Duplicate none of the Trade being yet arriv'd. I am sorry the Bill from Antigo for £200 Sterling is return'd protested as it probably will prove a dead Loss by the weakness of our factor. I am content with your management of the small Navy Bill, pray when you think

it my Interest to withdraw all or part of my Stock in the funds be so good as to advise me or do it without Advice if time dont permit & you judge it best, for my own part tis a Mystery I dont well comprehend. I begin to think Mr: Delancey as he has such a numerous family & London is so expensive, had better have kept his Son at Home, but now he is in, he must go thro' with it, in hopes his proficiency will make amends, which I am a little doubtful of too, from what I hear of his Turn, but be that as it will, he is not a bit the less obligd to you for the great kindness & friendship you have shewn him. Inclosed is a Bill on his Account for three hundred pounds Sterling drawn at Louisbourg 14th July by G: Townsend on Sir James Colebrooke & Arnold Nesbitt in favour of Lieut: Wm: Hall by him indorsd to Delancey & Watts & by them to you. I dont apprehend it will meet with any demurr, but should it, be so good as to take it up on my Account & return it protested to me or to Capt: John Mitchell of the 45th Regt:, if an opportunity offers to Louisbourg. God be prais'd that a peace is like to be our portion soon, for besides the ill humour at Home that renders it absolutely necessary, Warr & the destruction of the human Species has rag'd long enough.

Per the Cumberland packet ⁵⁴ & Capt. [blank] to London

New York 27th January 1763

MR: JOHN RIDDELL, London

SIR

Capt: Jacobson & the whole Convoy being still away I have not the pleasure of answering your favour by him, but the Pitt Packet lately brought me your other of 12th Nov: with the agreeable resolutions of your Intended Marriage, on which I congratulate you with all

⁵⁴ The *Duke of Cumberland* packet, Capt. W. Goodrich, was scheduled to sail for Falmouth, with the mail, on Jan. 28, 1763. *N. Y. Gazette* (Holt's), Jan. 27, 1763.

my heart & wish you all the Happiness real or Ideal the State affords. My Compliments & those of all the Family to our new relation, tho none of us have the pleasure of a personal Acquaintance, her intimate connection with you, will allways Interest us most warmly in whatever concerns her future Wellfare, & the same Spirit I hope may descend even to those who are yet to come, however distant their Lot may have placd them from each other. The Concern you invite me to for Capt: Tom, is so entirely out of my way, that I must leave you & my other friends to act for me as you judge best. Mr: Franks has Money in his hands, or in the Stocks rather, but when or how to call it out you must Judge. I would not run too much risque as I know not how to form any Idea of the Adventure, I mean that I would have the greater part Insurd, two or three hundred pounds wont break Squares. My Compliments to Mr: Pringle I shall be thankful for his Assistance & his Wine too when my Stock runs low.

My family are all well & offer you their sincere Wishes & Congratulations you will see Jack soon. I hope now we are likely to be blessed with peace.

Per the Cumberland packet & Capt. [blank] to London

New York 28th January 1763

WILLIAM ALLEN ESQ:

SIR

If the two hundred Johannes's are not Shipt be pleasd to deliver them to the Bearer Mr: Joseph Niles for Account of Mr: Joseph Maynard, who has directed him to receive what Money I may have of his in my hands. And pray take three Receipts for the same forwarding two of them to Mr: Maynard by different Conveyances. I am Dear Sir

Per Mr. Niles

New York 1st February 1763

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

I have answerd all your Letters that are come to hand as far down as to 20th Oct: but have since those of 13th Nov: & 9th Dec: to acknowledge & in Consequence of the latter have given Mr: Allen Orders to deliver to Mr: Joseph Niles the two hundred half Johannes committed to his care on your Account if they were not allready Shipt to Barbados tho I must own to you while I was doing it, it was with great diffidence least you should complain I had broke your Orders as your directions are "to call or draw for what Money I have *in my hands* on your Account when this Money is really out of them, so different are your Ideas of Business & mine from the Instances you have given me. Let me begin with the last Voyage of the little Molly hither she was to proceed back to Barbados & to be Insurd if the Underwriters would suffer you to have 33 days for her Arrival gratis if she was taken before or after they to bear the Loss, but if she arrivd within that space of time they were to have no premium. This if I understand any thing of Insurance, is saying in other words you were to venture Vessel & Cargo on you own Account, yet you say you never choose to run any risque. An Embargo took place on her Arrival & that your Scheme for N foundland might not be frustrated I procurd the Vessel a Freight to Martineco purely by my own Interest, to serve yours. I insurd without Orders £500 on Vessel, I Shipt without orders a hundred half Johannes, and insurd near the Value, this Insurance was very well because the Vessel was taken.

The Expences of the Vessel, little Cargo, Gold &ca: all which I advanced to a trifle with pleasure amounted within about two hundred pounds of the whole Proceeds of your Rum, yet I desird you would be expeditious in giving Orders about that Ballance, & qualify me by a Certificate to receive the Freight as it became payable here, that I might remit both in the manner you choose, as soon as the Order arrivd I did remit the Ballance, &

as soon as the Certificate arrivd, as opportunitys are rare from hence, did send about the Value of the Freight to Philadelphia to be Shipt from thence by the safest & best Conveyance that offerd. As soon too as you empower'd me with proper Papers I recoverd the Insurance on the Money & sent that also to Philadelphia to be Shipt by the safest & best Conveyance from thence, these two last Sums are those Mr: Niles has Orders to receive. Yet notwithstanding all this care, punctuality & attention to your Interest, most of your Letters complain of being long out of your Money, "that you must confess the Rum has been a long while Shipt & such kind of hints, which were entirely owing to the Vessels being taken & the want of necessary Proofs to recover the Loss and Freight, not to any delays in me, but what surprizes me most of all, is to find a person so pressing for returns attempting to take an Advantage of my Shipping those returns early, because they miscarry'd. I have told you I did not well understand what you mean by a Vessel of force, 'tis a vague expression, what one Man calls a Vessel of force, another denys to be such in the Merchants Service, & few or none deserve that name, if it be meant a defence against an Enemy of no extraordinary force, & if under that pretence I had been too fond of keeping your Money in my hands, there surely was opening enough, But as you was so pressing for remittances, I wrote you that I had ordered Mr: Howell to send about Sixty half Johannes by the safest & best Conveyance that offerd but what you meant by a Vessel of force I did not well understand & as few or none that are really such offerd, you might be kept out of your Money too long, it were better to insure if you had no objection, how easy was it for you to have added, who were so solicitous for remittances, that if no Vessel of force as you term it, offer'd, that Insurance be made on any other. It appears clearly you did not mean to be kept out of your Money, & it appears as clearly that I could not create a Vessel of force, what had I then to do, but to

order as I did that it be sent by the safest & best Conveyance that offer'd. I did also direct Mr: Howell to give you advice & even wrote myself, if no opportunity presented to carry it, it was not my fault, but above all I did not consider Sixty half Johannes such an enormous Sum as to terrify almost any Man in Commerce from running the risque, the uncommon proposal about the Insurance of your Sloop & Cargo if she had returned to Barbados shew'd no such appearance, but the reverse, & your Orders to insure her hither after a certain time plainly indicated you were not so apprehensive of risques, as in either case the whole Interest might have slipped thro' your fingers, but granting both these risques had been insured, unless you had cover'd, premium, Commissions, deduction of Offices for Losses, & God knows what, which few Men do, you would have suffered more than in this mighty Instance you have laid such stress upon, contrary in my opinion either to generosity or the Confidence that Subsists in Commerce between Man & Man, had the Tenor of your Correspondence been clear & consistent, had not your eagerness for remittances entirely contradicted waiting for what is properly a Vessel of force, had you not been entirely silent about Insurance, had I not been absolutely governed by your Interest & nothing else, something might have been said, but as the Matter is at present Circumstanced, I confess Sir your Interpretation of it appears to me very strange. Grant for Argument sake I had to hasten your remittances, shipped the Gold in a Vessel of insufficient force & by that means in endeavouring to serve your Interest, laid myself open to a breach of Orders, or in other words, shipped it without Orders & am therefore become accountable to you for the Consequences, pray is it not a parallel case that I claim the Benefit of the Insurance to Martineco, which was made without Orders too, the risque being the same thither as to Barbados, whither she would have returned without Insurance, on your own Account as you planned it & of course the whole Loss been yours.

You'll excuse my prolixity I beleive I have said too much on the occasion, a thing of the kind never happen'd to me before & therefore has engagd my attention the more, tho an object of no great Moment. The Underwriters are still stubborn about the Insurance of the Vessel if Lenitives have not the Effect soon, I must sorely against my will get into the Law which is terrible. They paid me £292.10. on the Gold, deducting agreeable to the Usage of the Office $2\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct: from the Sum insur'd. I desird Mr: Allen to send you two of Mr: Niles receipts by different Conveyances, if I do not finish your Affairs soon with the Underwriters I shall send a State of your Account as far as it goes.

Mr: Niles will inform you Capt: Hymer's Brig is daily expected into Virginia where the Mate is, & probably upon examining the Vessel, the Money may be recover'd. Mr: Niles has one of the Bills of Lading indorsd to him to take the proper Steps on the occasion. It might have been better no doubt as things have happend, that the produce of your Rum had been Shipt to England in Bills, but what is that owing to, the Capture only, & who could ever guard against all Accident, what was there left to remit when the Vessel saild from hence, about the Value of a simple hundred pounds.

Things were not ill managd, whatever you may think of it, considering your property fell into the Enemys hands, that you have got your Vessel again for a Trifle & are demanding of the Insurors a great Profit, at the worst must receive all your Loss on her, & that you have savd allmost all your Interest in Cargo as well as allmost all the Freight, these are Alleviations that do not allways attend people in such Circumstances, & had not your fool of a Master lost the Gold contrary to all the precautions in vain drove into his empty head, things would have turnd out better still. I am

New York 7th February 1763

JOHN ERVING Esq:

SIR

This Moment your favor of 24th Ult: is come to hand I am glad the Diamond is at last got safe & hope she may be more successfull to you for the future, yours tho a case hard enough for serving the Government is by no means among the first Class, being the thoroughfare of all trouble. We have many others leave it out of sight. I really wish it was in my power to serve your unfortunate Master & his family I have pleaded his hard case with the Commissary over & over again & represented the sufferings they must be brought to but all in vain, if we could have got the Impress Bill without passing a Note for the deficiency, he might have lookd long enough for it.

I beleive you will have heard that Capt: Cobs Sloop foundered at Sea & that the Passengers & Crew were fortunately taken up & carry'd to Virginia, among the rest your Son, as I am told, well, from whence they are expected hither. I am very respectfully,

New York 10th Feb: 1763

MR. MOSES FRANKS

SIR

I am to thank you for a Copy of your favour of 24th Sept. & an Original of 20th Oct. both by Jacobson, but much Later Letters by the Packet have brought us the Most agreeable Intelligence of a Cessation, which we flatter our selves will be followed by a solid & a lasting Peace, tho' we are Sorry to find the Makers & the Opposers of it at such Enmity as we are told they are. Ours to be sure is a Comical sort of a Constitution enough, that Fines as the most Noble Liquors do, by Fermentation.

As Mr. Nielson writes me Coll. Willmots Bill is Noted for non Acceptance £300 Sterling that I bought for him, & Chooses the Money to be replac'd rather than Run

the risque of Recovery, I have agreed to take it to my self with all its Consequences. You will therefore if it sho'd be protested which I believe will not Happen, Charge me with that Sum to his Credit & if the Stocks are good take the Value out of them or I will upon the first Notice remit the same to you by Bill with Interest. Inclosd are two other Bills on his Account Viz. Wm. Ryckman on Jno. Calcraft in favour of Coll. Burton dated Havanna 23d Sep. for £213.1.6 Sterling & Jno. Mitchell on Jno. Poumies in favour of De Lancey & Watts dated Louisbourg 14th Dec. for £100 Sterling both Indors'd to you for his Use.

I am very truly but in great Hast

Feb. 17th

I have not yet got another of Mitchell's Bills to send you, but inclos'd is a second of Rickman's.

Per Capt. Ball ⁵⁵ to Liverpool & Capt. [blank] to London

New York 12th February 1763

MESSRS: SMITH & NUTT

GENT.

My last was 2d Dec: since which I have none of your favours. Mr: Erving has receivd the Money of Major Rogers at Boston for his Bill of £23 Sterling, which he paid not as Exchange gover[ne]d, but in 36/ Sterling pieces. It amounted to thirteen of them lacking 8/ Sterling & these Mr: Erving accompts to me for at Eight Dollars each making £40.17.9 this Currency with that deduction. It differs considerably the Mode of Payment but as he was out of my reach I could not help it, even here he could have dischargd the Bill in spite of my teeth with Sterling Coin which would have been worse, for which reason if you should for the future transact any Bills of Value oblige the Drawer to give a good Bill on London for the Sum or pay it at the Current Exchange

⁵⁵ Thomas Ball, captain of the brigantine *Ranger*, which cleared from N. Y. for Liverpool. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Feb. 10, 1763.

which I take to be the meaning of all these Bills tho they certainly have the alternative in their power of paying it in Brittish Coin. The Vouchers are all past & gone Home in a Certificate. You have no doubt by this time heard what is become of your Quebec Vessels tho we have not. We wish Mr: Brymer may have Rice enough for his demands, twill be an unlucky job if neither of them gets up.

I congratulate you on the preliminaries & heartily wish the peace may answer the Specimen given of them in the Papers, uncontradicted tho without Authority. I am

New York 21st February 1763

MR: ISAAC YOUNG-HUSBAND

SIR

The above I did imagine would have got to your hands thro' Mr: Riddells but as I find by your Letter of 24th Ult: it never did I hope these will both reach you safe together & that you may be able to get rid of the Wench that she may be no longer a trouble to you. I am

New York 21st February 1763

MR: JOHN RIDDELL, Virginia

SIR

I have a Letter of 24th Jan: from Mr: Younghusband informing me that he never receivd mine of 27th Nov:, I have therefore inclosd him a Copy, with a few Lines added on which I beg you would send him & do with the Wench the best you can between you. She is not as the New England Men say dreadfull handsome, nor very young, yet I would be content to give for just such another harmless, stupid Being, that possessd only the quality she does of Cooking, a hundred pounds, with great readiness, that however can be no Government to you in the sale of her.

I have your favour to acknowledge of 23d Dec:, what

Corn or Oats will be in the Spring I cant pretend to say, a good deal will depend on early pasture, the peace I beleive will not raise them. I am

New York 1st March 1763

MR: JOHN RIDDELL, Virginia

SIR

My last was of 21st Ult: by Mr. Hylton. I did not then expect to trouble you so soon again, nor indeed ever upon such a Subject but the importunitys of the distressed are irresistable, the Case in a few words is this, Mr: Welch a Trader of this place has too rashly venturd his All in a Voyage among the French, which tho not Justifiable may claim Compassion in his pitiable Circumstances. In this Light I view it & in this Light beg leave to recommend the bearer his Agent to your good Advice & good Offices where they will be of any use to him. I dont know any of the Owners of the Privateer who has catchd his Stray Sheep which is truely Spem Gregis except Coll: Hunter, & to him the bearer has Letters as well as to many others however if using my name to the Colonel in the Course of the Transaction could add any weight to the much better recommendations the Man has I am very willing it should be made use of tho I distrust its efficacy I own if their much higher pretentions dont avail. Excuse the trouble I have taken the liberty to give you, we cannot & should not always help feeling for the distressed & that has prompted me to recommend the present Object to your Assistance. I am

New York 22d March 1763

THOMAS ASTIN ESQ:

SIR

In pursuance of your desire I have sent Mr: Hendy a Copy of the Sales of your Rum per the Deborah & of your Account Current.

It would have been unprecedented folly indeed not to have securd my Advance on your Sloop when she lay certainly at the mercy of Messrs: Maxwell and Udney of Antigo & Mr: Willcocks of Philadelphia by attachment, besides being subject as was then thought & beleivd to Mr. Barrell of New England in the same way for the remaining Bill of Exchange, but granting these apprehensions at a greater distance, what Inconvenience has flowd from it to you my Advance was not a whit the less, nor the Money paid to this day that I know of, nor any charge attending it but the Insurance which you would have paid if I had not, that I have treated you ill I believe no indifferent person will say, on the contrary I paid the same respect to your Interest & connections I could have done to my own too long, what returns I have met I need not repeat, but I must own it is a matter of surprize to me to find you complain with so much confidence, when a Cloud surrounds you every where in that Transaction, look which way you will.

Your observations are certainly very erroneous on the Money advanced Mr: Gwillim. He drew on me three Bills from New London for the Vessels use chiefly, amounting to £120 some advanced to Capt: Bragg, some to Capt: Lowell, besides sundry Charges on the Sloop when she was in distress, all or most of which have been since accompted for to you, by the respective Masters, or the Insurors, a Copy of which Account I took & now send a Transcript of it to Mr: Hendy. Afterwards in purchasing things for you & for his own necessary support, I advanced him seventy five pounds more, could I suffer him to be thrown into Goal in a strange place & perish when he was sent of such a sleeveless Errand in your Service, when at the same time, I was a witness of his frugality & prudence, but still Sir, not in vain warnd by some Symptoms I had felt of your Temper, I took care to know by authority he could claim a Support while here, on which he produced your Instructions & left the Original in my hands, to guard against the very exception that is now taken. Upon recurring to them you will find

this just authority for what I have done under your own hand. "Should this Cargo fall into your hands I agree to allow you ten per Ct: Commission & no more, if otherwise & it centers with Mr. Watts I will bear & pay your Expences going to New York with any other charge for living &ca: untill the return of my Sloop, you shall by no means suffer, I have directed Mr: Watts if the Sloop comes to New York to supply you with Money for your use." Now Sir after seeing & possessing this solemn Engagement under your own hand could I suffer the young Man to be distressed in a strange place in your Service or can you in conscience or honour disavow the necessary releif I granted him upon your faith, but even admitting you should be so unjust, I have an easy remedy at hand, only allow me an Interest for the Money I so long & so chearfully advanced for you without charging a farthing for it, tho you yourself agreed by Letter I should, I then shall be amply re'embours'd for the Trifle I imparted to a Stranger on your faith, made necessitous by your means & shall have the additional satisfaction of having releivd him at my own Expende.

I am uncertain what you mean "by sending abroad Letters that have passd between us". I sent none but to Mr: Clarke & to him only such as were necessary to explain my Situation, as he was deeply interested in the Event & ought in justice to be informed of it. If it is Maxwell & Udneys you advert to, I hope you dont call that passing between us, that was an open arraignment of your Conduct by others who were determind to proclaim it & to a part of which Mr: Clarke was no stranger, such a Transaction could not be hid under a Bushell nor were they in a Temper of Mind to suffer it, however be that as it will I hope I am not so destitute of better Guides, as to have either the Character or the Principles of a Gentlemen to establish upon Mr: Astin's Example or Precepts. I am

Via Philadelphia

New York 22d March 1763

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

I wrote you last 21st Dec: I am since obligd to you for your favour of 27th Jan: In drawing under the Current Exchange for Gold at Philadelphia I took Mr: Merediths Advice who was here & is esteemed cleaver in Business, small as the Transaction was; the difference I saw could be but triffling either way. I shall be glad to have once an end of my intercourse with Mr: Astin. It has been a very troublesome one to me & tho I have allways been advancing more than ever I got by it, barring the immense trouble I have been at & the many good Offices I have thrown away, yet all I find wont give satisfaction. I never desire to be plagu'd & harrass'd with such another. He has lately drawn on me for fifty odd pounds but I have postpond payment till the Bottomry Bill is satisfyd at Barbados then the whole shall be finish'd for ever.

We hear the Troops are all very healthy at the Havana your Nephew no doubt lets you know what passes there, he has purchas'd I find, the peace will make Commissions run high, so many will be gaping for full Pay. Mr: Allen does not forget your Hams, mine are ready for the first Conveyance with the white Beavers. I remain allways

Via Philadelphia to Mr. Allen

New York 23d March 1763

NATHA[NIEL] GILBERT ESQ:

SIR

I hope you will not impute it to disrespect that I have not answerd your favour of 20th Oct: sooner, no Conveyance has offer'd from this place since the Receipt of it, that I know of, which now makes me have recourse to Philadelphia for the Assistance of that Port.

Subsequent to my Letter of 20th March, 60, there should be among your deceased worthy fathers Papers another of 29th May following, a Paragraph of which I now inclose, to save you the trouble of a research & me of a repetition. It contains all I then could say, or now can say or probably shall ever be able to say, but still if you are of opinion I can be of any farther use to you, be pleas'd to instruct me & you shall find a very ready obedience from

Per Mr. Vansoling & via Philadelphia to J. Allen

New York 22d March 1763

JAMES HENDY ESQ:

SIR

By Directions from Mr: Astin I have the pleasure of addressing myself to you with the Account Sales of a Cargo of Rum per the Deborah & The Account the Originals went directly to himself in January last. I told him that One hhd: sold to Thomas Moore 3d May was still outstanding & very dubious amounting to £23.16, another to Gale Yalverton the very preceding Article amounting to £23.16.8 I have put into a Lawyers hands to recover. He has since I rendered his Account drawn upon me for £38 due to some Seamen for their Wages, the Payment of which I have postpond, till I could hear what was done at Barbados in our Affairs, therefore in settling with Mr. Clarke I shall look upon this as an Article chargeable to Mr: Astin & have minuted it on his Account accordingly. As to the two hhds: Rum whether they are chargd or not chargd it shall be as you think right. I am satisfyd, it will not weigh much in the Scale of Mr: Astin's perplexd ungracious Affairs, that have fallen to my Share & which I would finally close with giving you or any other of his friends as little trouble as possible, & upon this principle I shall be silent upon what has past, tho' it is my inclination to be otherwise,

least I should suffer in your opinion, to whom I am entirely a Stranger and unknown, but upon whose Justice & impartiality I should very willingly trust myself & beg tho' a Stranger you'll beleive me to be

Via Philadelphia to J. Allen

New York 24th March 1763

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

I wrote you two days ago to which I referr as I hope a State of Peace will suffer us to trust to one conveyance. Mr. Astin desires I wou'd transmit to Mr. Hendy Sales of his Rum & his Account that the Latter might be finally settled with you, which I do with pleasure & to prevent repetitions leave the Letter & Accounts open which I beg you wou'd be so kind as to seal and send him, without taking any farther Notice of it, least it shou'd give umbrage. I dont know wether Mr. Astin has mention'd it to him or no, but he finds great fault with the Money I advanc'd Gwillim, & puts it upon a very unfair footing, because I guess he does not know, for my own safety I kept his original Instructions to Gwillim. The £120 I was absolutely oblided to pay for his Bills from N: London or they wou'd have attach'd the Sloop, but supposing that not to be the case, it was really for the Vessels use Cheifly, as will appear by Inclosd Account which I likewise took, Suspecting what has since happen'd. The £75 was absolutely for his support & to pay for a good many things I knew he bought for Mr: Astin, or his overseer or both. I have wrote to him my mind upon several things. The paragraph relating to this Matter, is inclos'd which if it be Necessary may be shewn to Mr. Hendy, with the Account. I did not chuse to teaze him with our differences if it cou'd be avoided, but I think upon the whole, I never had to do with such a man

as my Freind Astin, but thank God our Acquaintance is like to be soon at an End.

I must beg your forgiveness for all this unavoidable trouble & hope it may be in my power to return the Obligation many fold, which I shall do with the greatest satisfaction & remain

Via Philadelphia To J. Allen

New York 28th March 1763

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

No doubt you receivd my last safe of 7th Ult: I have since a Letter from the Captain dated at Norfolk in Virginia so long ago as the 10th of Jan: inclosing Capt: Mackays Draught on me the 19th Oct: from the Havanna for a hundred Dollars in favour of Caleb Stutson by him assignd to Capt: Erving being for the use of the Snow Diamond. This Draught Capt: Mackay never gave me the least hint of but as it is become the property of one of your own family I beleive it must be paid without hesitation. I have nothing to add but that I am very respectfully

New York 5th April 1763

COLL: WILLMOT

SIR

I have to thank you for your favour of 12th Feb: which as usual was long in making its way hither at this Season. Mr: Mitchell has not mentiond as yet the remittance of any Money into my hands for your use tho I have Letters from him so late down as to March. Mr: Porter tells me he mention'd to you Mr: Calcrafts non Acceptance of your Bill for £300. I have since the other for £120 Sterling returned protested to my great surprize & your Loss, as the Damages are so considerable as 20 per Ct: besides Charges. Please to give me your

Directions what Steps I am to take for re-emboursment, as becoming your Endorser I have been obligd to pay the Money. I am very sincerely

New York 10th April 1763

HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONORABLE GENERAL MURRAY ⁵⁶
SIR

I was some little time past, favour'd with your Excellency's favour of 22d December & a few hours past with that of 8th March, inclosing some Documents relative to a Demand on the late Coll. Peter Schuyler's Estate, which I shall lay before the Executors & see what answer they make to it, much that poor Gentleman has sufferd by his Generosity to his fellow prisoners in Canada, but who this Stephens is whether Dead or alive solvent or insolvent I don't know nor ever heard. As soon as the sloops go up to Albany which will be in 2 or 3 days I will send up the remainder of the Carrot Seed no Conveyance has offer'd for it since I had the pleasure to Receive your Commands. The Camomile I hope got uninjur'd to your Hands. I was in Hopes to Send the Black Cook by Mr Baird but Mr DeLancey has not sent him according to his promise. I am afraid when his Destination was made known to him he has got out of the Way, however we shall soon know & if he can be perswaded to go I will send him up to Albany by a Sloop in a Day or two in the Meantime I Remain very respectfully

Per Mr. Baird

New York 12th April 1763

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

I wrote you 22d & 24th Ult: Through Philadelphia & not surmizing an Opportunity wou'd offer so soon from

⁵⁶ Major-General James Murray, Governor of Quebec.

hence, sent the two Beavers & the Bacon by water to Philadelphia likewise, for my freind Mr. Allen to forward with the Hams he had provided. I wou'd have sent you more, but my best provider fell short contrary to my expectations.

I desired Mr. Allen wou'd be so good as to put you in mind of a Certificate for the Deborah Bragg's Cargo. Gwillim sent me none, & these things are now looked on with some importance. We have a Packet ⁵⁷ left England the beginning of feb. but it brings Nothing very remarkable, partys run violently high, Lord Granville dead, the Peace not concluded, both Ministry & Opposition in appearance very much Determined. I allways am

Per Capt. Stewart ⁵⁸

New York 13th April 1763

MR. MOSES FRANKS

SIR

Inclos'd is Ryckman's & Mitchells third Bills on Calcraft remitted on Account of Mr. James Neilson, Mitchells second never came to hand.

N. B. The remainder relates to the Cont^{rs} laying before the Treasury, the paragraph of our Letter to them of 12th August relating to General A.

Per the pitt packet

New York 13th April 1763

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

My last was of 1st February through Philadelphia. We have since committed your Affair of Insurance to the Decision of Messrs. Henry Cruger & David Clarkson

⁵⁷ The snow *Harriot* Packet, Capt. Robinson, sailed from Falmouth Feb. 5, 1763, and reached N. Y. April 9, 1763. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, April 14, 1763.

⁵⁸ Sylvanus Stuart, Captain of the sloop *Trial*, which cleared from N. Y. for Barbados. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Mar. 31 and April 14, 1763.

who have made the inclos'd award of 18 per Ct: on the £ 500 insurd besides the proportion of the Expense of the Hostage. You will be pleas'd to consider the award & give me your directions thereon, all that I can say with respect to it, as I am of a different opinion is, that they are both Gentlemen of unblemish'd characters and determine Affairs of this kind as frequently as any others in the City, with a general Approbation. The Insurors themselves are dissatisfyd with the Award, as they adjusted the Settlement it came to about 10 per Ct: pursuant to the plan of the Office. I shall want to know when you give your Directions about this Affair, what the Expende of the Hostage is seperately, that it may be recover'd.

I have heard nothing from Mr: Niles since he receivd the two hundred half Johannes of Mr: Allen nor whether Capt: Hymer's Brigantine is got to Virginia, but I have been thinking whether if that Money had been lost by Accident in it's way to Philadelphia who must have bore the loss, because I never had Orders from you to send it thither, to be Shipt here opportunitys seldom or never offer to Barbados, so that I might have kept the Money in my hands for an Age had I stuck at Punctilios. Your first Order of 15th July running thus "I must beg the favour of you to remit the Ballance immediatly in Cash by the first good Opportunity" &ca: without hinting a word of Insurance or giving me the Liberty to send it to Philadelphia to seek a Passage.

Via Philadelphia to Mr. Franks

New York 22d April 1763

MR. JOHN MACKINTOSH

Oxford Court Cannon Street

SIR

Your Brother Captain Alexander Mackintosh desires me to remit you the Mony formerly mention'd which I

now do by the Ship *Hope*, Captain Jacobson consisting of 2 Bags, containing Five Hundred Dollars each & amounting in this Currency to £400.0.0.

No doubt your Brother writes you frequently, he is quarter'd at a pleasant Village on Long Island about Twenty Miles distant from the City & was well two or three days ago.

The peace was sign'd we are told 10th Feb: but it has not yet reach'd us, I hope it may be a lasting one, that we may thoroughly throw off the Load of Warr, which tho' very glorious, has been very expensive too. I am

Per Capt. Jacobson⁵⁹ & the Harriot packet

New York 22d April 1763

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

I am now to thank you for your favours of 7th Jan: & 11th Feb: Mr: Robinson will give Directions about the Disposal of his half part of the remittances from Antigo. I am glad upon second thoughts they have paid Whiteheads Draught; nothing can be more ungratefull & hazardous too than solicitations for Protested Bills, especially at a distance & in the West Indies.

The Gosport is long indeed in getting Home. I hope she may save her distance in the price of Gold, which is very good, but I find by the Sales of that per the *Minerva*, had we been upon our Guard with respect to the Weight, which would have cost nothing here, it would have occasion'd a pretty considerable difference in the Proceeds.

If a Peace in Germany dont give dye Woods a Stimulus, they must continue low till another disturbance raises them, more especially Logwood, which cannot well

⁵⁹ The ship *Hope*, Capt. Christian Jacobson, sailed from N. Y. Ap. 23, 1763, for London; the *Harriot* packet, Capt. Robinson, sailed with the mail for Falmouth on Ap. 27, 1763. *N. Y. Gazette* (Holt's), Ap. 23, 1763.

advance while our access to the Bay of Honduras is easy & uninterrupted. They have not however run much into it yet, tho they have made a beginning.

The definitive Treaty is not come to us yet, tho we are told it was signd 10th February & if full as favourable, if not more so, than the Preliminarys. Eighty five Regiments to be kept up is a great deal, fifteen are said to be for North America. Some of the Colonys that have done nothing or next to nothing, may contribute to the Subsistance of them, but those which have exerted themselves with a becoming Spirit must first be releivd of the present Burthen, or I should imagine it would fall too heavy, besides the seeming Injustice that might attend a Measure where no distinction is made, neither Obedience rewarded or Countenanced nor disobedience punish'd. This is but a very small Colony, reckond to contain between Eighteen & Twenty Thousand Men from Sixteen to Sixty, has several times been obligd to send by Law every fifth Man that was left, after various other Services for the Crown were supplyd, And now if I recollect, we have about forty thousand Pounds to sink annually by Taxes on Estates really & Personal till the Year Sixty seven inclusive, while our Neighbours to the Southward are paying little or nothing, which is a great discouragment to the settling of Crown Lands while those of Proprietors, know not in a manner, what Taxes mean. I am

Per Capt. Jacobson & the Intrepid

New York 22d April 1763

MESSRS. DAVID BARCLAY & SONS

GENT.

I am favoured with yours of 30th Oct: 12th & 16th Feb: Our friend Allen by being Stout saved his Insurance on the Guineas by Boulderson as I shipt them without Orders in that Bottom I press'd him to insure but he

did not choose it. A Letter I forward you from him by this Conveyance no doubt informs you he is to leave Philadelphia about the first of May or rather sooner so that probably you will soon have the pleasure of an interview on tother side the Water. On Monday the Packet ⁶⁰ arrivd & the very hour she did I forwarded Gov: Hamiltons Letter by the Post which was deliverd me by the Master himself before the Letters by the Mail were assorted. I am

Per Capt. Jacobson & Capt. Chambers

New York 22d April 1763

MESSRS: THOMAS PENINGTON & SON
GENT.

I am to thank you for your favour of 17th Dec: with a Postscript of 8th Jan: & for your other favour of 12th Jan: You have taken the most eligible Method with Coll: Willmot's Bill as I was the Indorser, indeed I little thought of such an Event, as I know him to be an honest, worthy considerate Man, nor can I yet account for it, he lately got the 80th Regiment & there must be some entanglement I suppose between that & the 45th which he left, whatever be the cause I am not a bit the less obligd to you for your friendly interposition. Mr: Cruger has wrote to you about our ill fated Logwood, we both are of opinion it must be sold during the course of the Summer, before the run to the Bay is too great, as yet we dont hear much of it, & are in hopes that Germany being once again blessd with Peace will by it's quick Labours increase the Consumption & create a Demand. The Supply of Ale & Cheese will be wellcome whenever it comes. I should make you a remittance, but as our Essay in Logwood is come to a Crisis, you must soon be

⁶⁰The (*Earl of*) *Halifax* packet, Capt. Bolderson, left Falmouth March 5, 1763, and arrived at N. Y. Monday, April 18, 1763. *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, Ap. 21, 1763.

re-emboursd that way, & it will prevent farther trouble.
I am very truely

Per Capt. Jacobson & Capt. Chambers

New York 22d April 1763

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

By the Packet last week I sent you the third of Ryckmans & of Mitchells Bills on Calcraft for the use of James Neilson, the second of Mitchells was not then come to hand tis now inclosd. In a Letter some time ago I desird you would charge me with the Value of Coll: Willmots Bill to James Neilsons Credit if it was not paid, he has since sent it to me with the Protest my Order of Course remains good. I have now your Letter to acknowledge of 10th Feb: & shall be expecting my Cargo with Capt: Napier.⁶¹ I dont well understand Irwin's Bill being as I direct, does it remain chargd to me, or is it carryd to the joint Account.

The Change in the St: George's Voyage or Policy is new to me. I allways understood Leghorne & Venice were her Ports of destination & that an abatement was due if she did not proceed to the latter, no orders that I can recollect were ever given to the contrary, however I am content with whatever alterations were intended for the best.

Per Capt. Jacobson

New York 10th May 1763

MR. HEN. CRUGER JUN. [of Bristol, England]

SIR

As I thought it wou'd be more eligible to you to Ship Goods for my moiety of the Proceeds of the Sugars by

⁶¹ John Napier, of the snow *Polly*, sailed from London during the second week in March, and entered in at the N. Y. Custom House in May, 1763. *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, May 5, and 26, 1763.

the New Grace than to pay the Value by Bill, as I do not deal in dry goods myself, I have prevaild on my acquaintance Mr. James Neilson of N Brunswyck to Open a Correspondence with you & to order that Value on his Account, you will therefore pass the Amount thereof being I think £ [blank] Sterling to his Credit & he will pay me for it at his Conveniency. Mr. Neilson I have allways found a Very honest punctual Man, is very industrious & in good Circumstances. I mention this that you may not be a stranger to the Character of the Man, if he sho'd Continue his intercourse with you, which I have begun in hopes of doing you a Service & am

Per the Grace

New York 13th May 1763

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

Since the foregoing I have your favours to acknowledge of 3d & 10th March, both by the Cumberland Packet, the first being a Copy. I have acquainted General Monckton with the Sales of his Gold, he has had no Letter from Lord Gallway,⁶³ as he was expected to be on his Passage Home, but I imagine his Stay will yet be spun out to Six Weeks or two Months, unless a Man of Warr should accidentally offer sooner. Whether he will return or no is very uncertain, the Province regrets the Loss of him much, his Conduct has been so kind, just & moderate & at the same time so impartial & independant. His three Children go Home in this Ship a Girl & Two Boys & probably bid Adieu to America for ever, tho he should not.

I observe the Bill on Colebrooke & Nesbitt for £ 300 was accepted & would be pass'd to Mr: Peter Delanceys Credit. I shall soon remit you some more on his Account, or if you like it better, you may close his Account by

⁶³ William Monckton, 2nd Viscount Galway, elder brother of Gen. Robert Monckton. Burke's *Peerage*.

a Charge to me when this comes to hand. I can settle it with him here & you may begin of a new afterward, he will take care to prevent so great an Advance for the future, the Apprentice or Clerks Fee he was not quite so well prepard for. He had not heard the least Whisper of his Sons Indisposition, so that your kind Letter will prevent any Alarm whatever & at the same time give him the satisfaction of knowing the Distemper was going off.

I thank you for your information of the Stocks, when they are at Parr, if so it shall happen, instead of three, I will think of converting them into Seven per Cent, but then to secure the Principal on this Side the Water from depretiating, will be the point & a difficult point too, if we continue to run over head & ears in Debt as we have done. I sincerely hope if they begin with the Colonys so soon as next year for Support of the Troops, they will begin with the Delinquents & raise us to the same Pitch, that Setlers may not be encouragd to run from those who have done their Duty, to those who have not done their Duty, for ease. I am respectfully

Per the Grace & packet ⁶³

New York 13th May 1763

MESSRS: LASSELLES CLARKE & DALING
GENT.

I have Mr: Lasselles's favour to acknowledge of the 3d & yours of 12th March. I sincerely condole with him on the Loss of his old friend & Partner Mr: Maxwell & congratulate you on the Establishment of your New House which I wish all imaginable success & Prosperity.

The small concerns I have under your care I cannot doubt will be conducted with the same Attention as heretofore & that I shall be equally indebted to you for

⁶³ Alexander Colden, deputy postmaster and agent for His Majesty's packet boats, advertised in Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, May 12, 1763, that the *Halifax* packet would sail with the mail on Saturday, May 14, and that the mails for England would be made up regularly on the second Saturday of every month.

your friendship & Candor in the management of them, which I shall allways rely upon, with the greatest Confidence. Exchange as long as a Shilling of Silver & Gold is to be scrapd together in the Colonys will be less beneficial than it has been for some time past, but when that ceases, it must rise again from the Necessity of remittances & where it will stop while we are thus rushing headlong into Debt for materials chiefly of Luxury & Ornament, no Mortal can guess. From 95 it fell upon the peace to 85 per Ct: immediatly, & will keep down as I have said as long as Gold or Silver is to be had & then must of course mount upwards. I am

Per the Grace & packet

New York 20th May 1763

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

I hope you have receivd the foregoing, that I may know what I have to do, for I shall determine nothing ultimately till I have your Orders. Inclos'd is another Copy of the Award, least any Accident should have attended the first. I am

Per Capt. Southcot ⁶⁴

New York 20th May 1763

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

My last was 12th Ult: a Copy is annex'd. I have since none of your favours, but hope to hear from you soon with a Certificate for the Deborahs Cargo. Our good Governor goes Home very soon & whether he ever returns or no seems to be a Matter of some Doubt, he sells all off & if he should return again brings every thing new. his three Children of which he is extremely fond

⁶⁴Richard Southcott, captain of the snow *William and Mary*, to sail to Barbados. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Ap. 28, 1763.

went yesterday from Sandy Hook before him with the Mother. Mr: Colden again succeeds to the Government. Mr: Maxwell I find is dead & the House new modell'd, under the Stile of Lasselles, Clarke & Daling. I wish them all imaginable Success, as well out of regard to you as themselves as I take it for granted the middle Man is of your family, tho I find by the Papers he has another handsome Appointment.⁶⁵ No doubt you will receive the definitive Treaty before this reaches you. Inclosd are some of our latest Papers. One of them comprehends it with a few other Anecdotes relative to the times not very curious or material. I am

Per Capt. Southcot

New York 7th June 1763

ROBERT PORTER ESQ:

SIR

The inclos'd two Letters fell into my hands since you left us. The one from Coll: Willmot, I believe contains a good deal of Wrath about the Protest of his Bills. He tells me that he will send you a Power to settle all his Affairs with his Agent, & that I must draw upon you for the Amount Damages &ca: which I propose doing a little while hence, when you have had time to look about you & to bring them to a Settlement.

The Governor goes in the Edward Capt: Davis about three Weeks hence, at least that is the present Plan, as no Man of Warr appears. I cannot recollect any thing new since you left us. Your friends at the Oyster Club are all well, as I hope you have been since you left it. I am

June 11th. The Inclosd is just come to my hand from C: Willmot. I am &c: Yours

Per the Beulah ⁶⁶ & Cumberland packet

⁶⁵ Gedney Clarke Jr. was appointed surveyor of customs in the Leeward Islands. *The Gentleman's Magazine*, XXXIII, 46, (Jan. 1763).

⁶⁶ The ship *Beulah*, John Green master, was scheduled to sail for London on June 9 or 10, 1763. The packet *Duke of Cumberland*, Capt. Goodridge, sailed with the mail for Falmouth on June 13, 1763. *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, May 19, June 2, 9, 16, 1763.

New York 7th June 1763

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

I am a Debtor for your favours of 25th Feb: & 21st April. You have my thanks for the things by Napier, they will all I dont doubt answer their several purposes very well, the Knives tho dont correspond with the Order which runs thus "a couple of dozen of Green or white handled Knives & Forks for my familys use, I mean the full dozen or twice Twelve of each" but instead of the twice Twelve, twice Six only are come, call'd indeed in the Invoice 2 Dozens, and as I am no great Judge of the Value, I cant determine whether or no a dozen is sent less than is chargd by mistake or whether the Order has been misunderstood, it will however be no Mystery to you who are a much better Judge of these things than I am.

The inclosd Bill for £ 300 Sterling happening to fall into my hands drawn by Lau[chlan] McLeane on John Stewart dated at Martineco 20th April I send it to make good the Principal of Coll: Willmots for the same value returnd Protested to James Neilson whatever Interest or Charge besides attend it must be chargd to my Account. By Accident the whole Sett of the inclosd Bill were rent through & through in the Governors hands, however he has endorsd them & if any Obstacles should arise will remove them in person, as he has taken Passage in Captain Davis to sail in about three weeks, but still go on in common Course with it, till he does arrive. I am allways

Some Indians, supposd the Delawares, have been troublesome about Pittsburg, scalpd some people & as the report goes have cut off an advancd Post, either St: Josephs or Sanduski for tis reported of both. Three Companys of light Infantry are rendevouzing on Statin Island to be in readiness if they should be wanted when the truth comes to be know. People as usual have different

Opinions of it, some think lightly of it, others are more serious.

Per the Beulah & Cumberland packet

New York 11th June 1763

SIR CHARLES HARDY

SIR

It was but very lately your favour of 25th Feb: reach'd me with the inclosd for Gov: Hardy which I immediatly dispatch'd to him. It gives me great Pleasure to find his Conduct more dispassionately considered than it was when the Storm first arose & that your Accounts to him are favourable, for barring too great an easiness of Temper which seems to proceed from a Disposition to oblige, his Conduct certainly was very unexceptionable & so much to the Satisfaction of the Province, that it truly parted from him with great regret. He no doubt will tell you what are his Determinations about going home for my own part from your hints I wish they were a little more vigorous & expeditious too, as he may be losing time, but your Changes & rotations are so perpetual [*sic*] & erratick that it must be confessd on the other side, no Mortal can tell upon the common Principles of reason, why, when or how a person loses either time or Interest. A Letter you referr to calld "your last wherein you had told me what Steps you had taken with respect to the iniquitous Practices carryd on here" never came to my hand, & I wish it may have had fair Play. Letters to be sure may miscarry accidentally, but unless Mr: Secretary as I before hinted to you had conveyd some Intelligence on this Side the Water, I cant for the Life of me devise how some Anecdotes I have heard dropt here, could have come to light, but thro' an indirect Channel, to say no worse of it. Mr: Monckton proposes to go Home in a Merchantmen one Davis in about three weeks time, his Behaviour has been so up-

right generous & benevolent that he is universally esteemd & his Departure as much regretted. Whether he ever returns or no is I beleive uncertain & depends upon future Circumstances, when he gets there. The Old Man ⁶⁷ of Course succeeds again as he seems to be immortal, & as things in general are better establishd now than they were before, it is to be hoped all will go on peaceably & well tho it certainly will not be some peoples faults, if it does not fall out otherwise. Mr: Horsemanden to his very great joy is become our Chief Justice, Mr: Jones, second, Mr: Smith the Elder, third, & Mr: Robert R. Livingston fourth Judge, their Commissions all during pleasure, & their Salarys too. The Legislatures both of N: York and N Jersey have at last been brought to pass similar Acts for settling the Line between them, I mean each for paying a Moity of the Expençe when the King shall be pleasd to appoint Commissioners. Tis high time all the Lines were settled, or this little crowded Colony will be tore to pieces, Massachusetts, N Hampshire, N Jersey & Pennsylvania have all pretensions upon it of one kind or other. When a little dirty Dispute arises here between Governor & People, of hardly any Consequence, they can send firie Instructions & Reproofs without a Moments delay, but in things of such Moment as absolutely to prevent spilling one anothers blood (for Blood there has been several times spilt) & raising allmost a civil Warr between the Kings Subjects, they can let things sleep as if Providence really permitted no Evil in the World. My Glass is run. I must subscribe myself

Per the Cumberland packet

New York 26th June 1763

MR: MOSES FRANKS

With this you will receive the third Bill of Lau[chlan] Mackleane on John Stewart. Capt: Davis now carrys

⁶⁷ Lieutenant Governor Cadwallader Colden.

Home our much regretted Governor.⁶⁸ My Taylor says you must not buy any more Cloth of the same Man, it looks as if it had been once wore allready.

Per Capt Davis

New York 25th June 1763

CAPT: CARTER

Deale

SIR

With pleasure I obey Major Wilkin's⁶⁹ Commands in sending you a Pipe of Madeira per the Edward, Capt: Davis. The Quality I beleive you will find good but I wish it was a little older. It will be a sufficient Apology for me, however I hope to assure you a better was not to be bought in all the City after a most diligent Search. The Major is very safe at Niagara where he commands, but the Indians have been troublesome to some of the other Posts & to the poor traders not a little cruel, however we hope the Storm may blow over upon some vigorous exertions, tho it must be allowd our Military Force is rather weak, the woefull Havanna having undone us. With sincere wishes for your Health & Happiness I remain

Per Capt. Davis & Ashfield⁷⁰

New York 26th June 1763

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

My last was 13th May. I have since none of your favours. Inclos'd is Delancey & Watts' Bill on Sir James

⁶⁸ Major General Robert Monckton sailed from N. Y. June 28, 1763, in the ship *Edward*, William Davis, Captain. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, June 30, 1763.

⁶⁹ John Wilkins, Major of the 60th or Royal American Regt. of Foot. Millan's *Army List*, 1763. For a short sketch of his life, see O'Callaghan's note in *Doc. rel. to Col. Hist. of N. Y.*, VIII, 185.

⁷⁰ Vincent Pearse Ashfield, captain of the snow *Garland*, sailed for Bristol the end of June, 1763. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, June 16, 23, 30, 1763.

Colebrooke & Partners for £135.8.1 Sterling dated 15th Instant for the use of Mr: Peter Delancey, which you will be pleasd to pass to his Credit. In October fifty nine Delancey & Watts drew a Bill on you to Thomas Kennedy for £ 100 Sterling his father who is since dead (Collector of our Customs and Receiver General) has often desird me to enquire to whom it was paid & when, the Family desire the same favour still, the old Gentleman seemd to think his Son had no occasion for the Money & that the Bill upon his Death fell into wrong hands. I take this Surmise to be the meer Effect of old Age, but still I would willingly satisfy them. Our worthy Governor embarks in this Ship much regretted & much wishd for again. The Indians you will hear are in Arms, the Motive not known. Establishing Garrisons in their Country by way of Bridle is assignd as one reason, denying them Spirits & Ammunition in the usual plenty, is offer'd as another, but be it owing to whatever Cause it may, the plan seems to have been regularly and deliberately concerted, how far the five Nations are concernd or whether they are concernd at all, is not yet known. Detroit they attempted to surprize with three hundred Men, privately Armd, by way of Treaty, but were disappointed, Niagara & Pittsburg are safe, the fate of several of the other out Posts unknown. Presque Isle thought to be well, Venango, Michilimachinack uncertain, Sanduski cut off. We could wish now to have some of the brave, neglected Troops at the Havanna restord to us again, for our Musters are very thin.

I have taken G: Monckton's Coach & if he should send to you for the Money as I have desird he would, pray pay what he demands. And if Sir Harry Seton or any body in his name or by his directions should ask for the Amount of a hhd: of Claret be so kind as to pay it. He is the Generals Aid De Camp & goes now Home with him.

Per Capt. Davis & Ashfield

New York 30th June 1763

MR: THOMAS PENINGTON & SON

GENT.

Tho I have little to offer I would not deferr particularly thanking you for your favour of 14th April with the Beer & Cheese by the Prince George Capt: Hathorn.⁷¹ Our old miserable ill fated Logwood I hope may change Hands before the new, if I may so call it, comes in plenty to Market, or bad will be worse indeed, however that is a matter I generally submit to the Observations & Experience of our friend Cruger & leaving it now there, I have only to subscribe myself

Per Capt. Ashfield

New York 4th July 1763

MR: COLBORN BARRELL

SIR

I wish with all my Heart it was in my power to releive you in your hard case with Mr: Astin but it really is not. His Affairs in my hands became so embarrassd & Expensive from the indigested plan he had laid, & the considerable Demand you made, that so far from having any Effects to spare I was obligd to take a very improper Cargo I had provided by his Order, to myself & Ship it to Barbados, by which I lost above Twenty per Ct: & was farther obligd in order to secure myself to take an Hypothication Bill upon the Sloop for near four hundred pounds for which I have not receivd One farthing to this day. Never did such a perplexd Transaction fall to my Lot before, nor is it possible to conceive any thing could end more unsatisfactorily than it has done, on all sides. Can it be regular to suffer a Bill to lye dormant such a length of time, in every other stage of Exchange the Possessor or factor is obligd to act consistantly or abide by the Consequences & I cannot see why he should not

⁷¹The ship *Prince George*, James Hathorn, captain, arrived at N. Y. on June 4, 1763, from Bristol, England. Weyman's *N. Y. Gazette*, June 6, 13, 1763.

by this, but you who are better acquainted with the particular Circumstances of the Transaction than I am must be the best Judge. I am

Per post

New York 4th July 1763

HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONORABLE GENERAL MURRAY

DEAR SIR:

I am conscious of having been too long silent, but it really proceeded from my being at a Loss what to say about the Rascal of a Cook, that I flatterd myself I should have sent you but was (I beleive luckily) disappointed. He turnd sullen & headstrong and would obey no Command, insomuch that his Master parted with him to a Tavern Keeper from whom he has elopd I have been told once or twice and to complete his education has taken to drinking. His Stomach since his change of Masters is come to & he offerd me to go to Canada tother day, but I was afraid to venture upon him with his new acquird Qualitys & the City after the strictest enquiry does not afford another who understands his Business, so that I really am at a loss what to do, but am inclind to think upon the whole it is more eligible to have none at all, than a bad one at so high a price. With respect to the farming Men & Woman too I can find none that can be recommended who will go, they look upon it as an Exile from whence they are never to return & as it's an invariable indulgence here to permit Slaves of any kind of worth or Character who must change Masters, to chose those Masters, there is no persuading them to leave their Country (if I may call it so) their acquaintance & friends, to explore what to their narrow minds appears a New World, however Sir you may be assurd I shall not give over the Pursuit & if either Cook or Farmer offers that will bear a recommendation they shall be conveyd to you without the least delay. Upon enquiring more particularly into the Demand on the late

Coll: Schuylers Estate I found by the Person who acts for it that a regular power of Attorney lay here with one Mr: Franklin, however that did not in the least abate my desire to have the Affair finally settled & between us we got a Note for the Money, payable in Sept: next, which we hope will give satisfaction. Mr: Franks writes me he will send the things I orderd for your Excellency by the first Ships, I hope they may be arrivd before this gets to hand. The Camomile I am sorry to see was so long on its way, the Seeds that followd probably will meet with more dispatch. Mr: Mortier desird to know the Amount of the things I had sent you which tho trifling I gave him. a Copy is annexd. My Wife and Daughter are extremely obligd to your Excellency for their pretty Baskets, which are really curiositys & deserve to be taken care of as such, their Compliments and Acknowledgmnts wait on your Excellency for the favour.

I am afraid I have gone far enough. I shall therefore conclude with assuring your Excellency that any farther Commands you shall think fit to lay upon me will much oblige

General Monckton saild a week ago for England in one Davis a Merchant Ship. Old Mr: Colden again assumes the Reins. I wish the Indians may not give us a great deal of trouble, they are a heterogenious sort of an Enemy.

Per post

New York 5th July 1763

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR:

Inclos'd is a Letter from Mr: Temple by his Brother who tells me he intended you the Compliment of the Appointment, if you had chose it, & his own Appointment to be recalld. His View I mean the present Collector⁷² is to act by Deputy, till some other Appoint-

⁷² Robert Temple.

ment is made, for as the present System of Politicks run, I find he dont expect to be continu'd. Our Indian Affairs seem to grow worse & worse, these wretched Savages still continuing to murder the poor defenceless frontier Settlers without Mercy, God knows what it will come to at last. Mr: Baker has my Orders to pay for the Coach whenever you will be pleasd to send for it. The Vandue begins this morning. Deal tells me your Inventory was very defective, but he has completed it. I have passd to your Credit, according to our Merchantile phraise the £ 24 you gave me in Paper Money, the morning you embarkd, I have paid Lieut: Steele £ 92.10. for your Bill on me in his favour for £ 50 Sterling & shall discharge all other Demands that appear right. I hope you have had a pleasant & a safe Passage, we got back tolerably well, Gates grunted a little & vowd to undertake no more such damn'd Jaunts. Mordecai the Jew was stript of a little more of his Powder Money. My Compliments to Sir Harry & Love to the Children & beleive me allways

I have sent by the Bearer Capt: Riven of the Snow Kitty a small Box containing Mr: Gouverneurs Curious present of Southern Monsters in Spirits, directed for you at Lord Gallway's

Per Capt. Riven ⁷³

New York 4th July 1763

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR:

By Mr: James Neilsons Directions I inclose you Delancey & Watts Bill on the Contractors of this Date for £ 200 Sterling at forty days Sight No: 760 which you will be pleasd to pass to his Credit. I am

Per Capt. Riven

⁷³ John Riven, captain of the snow *Kitty*, cleared from the N. Y. Custom House for London. Weyman's *N. Y. Gazette*, July 4, 1763.

New York 13th July 1763

MESSRS: GEORGE & JOHN RIDDELL
GENT.

I am favoured with yours inclosing the Account Sales of my poor old Cook for which I thank you the Terms I must be satisfyd with, she suited my family who were used to her stupidity better than I believe she will any other. I have recommended Mrs: Steel of this place to your good Offices, in order to recover a considerable Demand she has on One Knights a Partner of her late Husband. If these recommendations are unacceptable let me know it & I will desist, I did not know but something might be made out of them where any Effects were to be found, but Ex nihilo &ca:

As your produce is dear I beleive I must wait till the new mends the Market & then leave it to you to send me what you think best, tho scarce any thing will bear the heavy weight of Transportation & the less valuable the Commodity the more sensibly it is felt. I have a Letter from my Kinsman since he changd his Condition, I am

forwarded by Mrs. Steele

New York 13th July 1763

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

I have been endeavoring to settle as easie as I could the deficient Provisions of Capt: Mackay by Composition & every way I could think of, but to no purpose, the absolute Species are requird, for which reason I have been waiting, & am still waiting, to lay them in as favourable as possible to make a cruel Loss lay as light as it is in my power, but that you may have a View of your Account I now inclose it, by which you will see the Bill I paid the Captain drawn by Mackay from the Havanna has allready thrown a Ballance of £ 37.11.¼ in my favour.

When we last heard of the Detachment of Montgomery's they were as far as Carlisle, but I have no Letter from your Son, Soldiers dont often write. He left a Trunk of Cloaths with me which I shall send by Wimble and till then remain

Per Capt. Wattson

New York 21st July 1763

HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONORABLE GENERAL MURRAY

SIR

I did myself the honour of writing to you so fully on 4th Instant by the Post that I can recollect nothing Material to be added, relative to your Commands, in some of which I heartily wish'd to have been more successful. Mr: Pitcher's return to Canada is however so favourable an Opportunity that I would not fail of paying my respects to you tho' nothing else offer'd. In what form the Government of Canada is to be moulded, or whether it is to remain in the old one, we dont yet hear, the violent Struggles & Convulsions at Home, it's probable diverts a great deal of their time & Attention from more usefull Objects, tis amazing to what lengths they run. Squire Wilks is certainly a Phenominon, if his Noble Briton escapes Correction, tis hard to conceive what is punishable, or what a seditious Spirit may not say of King Lords & Commons. Your Seeds &c: from England I hope are by this time arrivd, & the Camomile Flowers &c: from hence been a long time in your Possession.

I have the honour to be with the greatest respect

Per Mr. Pitcher

New York 22d July 1763

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

Since I wrote you 26th June by Capt: Davis, Copy of which went by Capt: Ashfield to Bristoll, I am favoured

with yours of 21st May by the Pitt Packet a day or two ago, with my Account Current which I shall run over at a little leisure. The Impress Bill answerd much better than I expected, could I have foreseen the Issue, I could have thrown some Money into your hands very profitably.

Nicorago Wood Capt: Davis told me in earnest sold for Sixteen or Seventeen pounds, he himself sold it so, if that be the case I am in hopes my aged Sticks will go off, this Advice raisd it thirty per Ct: here. Inclosd is the third Bill on Sir James Colebrooke & Partners by Delancey & Watts, for the use of Peter Delancey Value £ 135.8.1 Sterling. Our Indian Affairs have not mended, Detroit we hope & beleive to be safe, but every other fort between that & Pittsburg is cut off, Sanduski, Presq'Isle, LeBeuf & Venango, & all the Garrisons butcherd, a very few excepted, this Colony continues a hundred & Seventy Men that were appropriated to remain in Garrison last Winter & be dischargd 1st Instant. No more are askd that we hear of from our Northern Division, as we call it, including New Jersy Eastward, Pensilvania had voted Seven Hundred to cover their Harvest, but they would not let the General have them to act offensively. I really think this Savage War has an ill Aspect & the Appearance of continuing too long. I am allways

Per the pitt packet

New York 23d July 1763

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

With this you'l receive the 2d Bill of Delancey & Watts on the Contractors for the use of James Neilson Value £ 200 Sterling No: 760.

I am since favourd with yours of 20th May by the Pitt Packet the other of the 11th preceeding is not yet come to hand, nor does it matter much whether it ever

does or no, if it is wholly upon the Subject that has sunk so deep into my Spirits, for when a thing is irremediable the less we hear of it & the sooner it can be forgot, the better.

You may be assur'd we shall not relax one point of your Contract that will serve you, but that Order from the Treasury to the General, is an Obstacle that I am afraid we shant get over here, 'tis amazing to me how such a respectable Body can act so contradictory, surely in a Change if all regard is thrown aside common decency ought to be observ'd to give the Body weight even if strictly speaking the Act of one is not binding on the other, for inconsistencies & Contradictions must bring a publick Board I should think into Contempt. Could they now be ignorant of the Minute of Dec: fifty nine or you of the late directions to the General, either to me seems strange & yet how such jarring principles should prevail if either was known is equally strange. If nothing to better purpose can be done in the mean time & we receive no fresh Instructions from you before the Contract ceases, we shall adhere to your plan of protesting, tho we can see no great matter in it as the people you have to deal with are an unaccountable Body & may be more irritated than convinced.

Our Indian Affairs dont by any means seem near an end I wish they did. They have destroy'd every Post from Detroit to Pittsburg, Sanduski, Presq'Isle, LeBeuf & Venango & to the best of our information have butcher'd the poor people a very few excepted. The fate of Michilimachinack and St: Josephs is yet unknown. Some are in pain for Detroit but the chance of that Post is generally thought much on our side. How they got Presq'Isle puzzles the knowing unless by Stratagem & yet the Officer one Christie a Subaltern of the R[oyal] Americans was known to be warnd & writes the General he had the most respectable of all the small Posts on the Frontiers, well stackaded a good Ditch, Coverd Way & Glacis & yet they are reported both to have undermin'd it & set

it on Fire several times, if this be true our formerly stupid Savages are become great Proficients in Warr

Per the pitt packet

New York 23d July 1763

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON ⁷⁴

DEAR SIR

With this you will receive four Letters and one Packet from I dont know who, but different hands. The Sale of your furniture is over, & our Connoisseurs are of opinion has gone off very well, but I beleive you will be of a different mind, owing they say to your paying like a Governor. I beleive too there is something in that, tho I could observe the peace has cheapend things, & lessend peoples keenness, as well as made Money scarce. I must referr you to Deale ⁷⁵ for particulars. We constantly had an Eye on the Sale & are well assur'd, as times go, more could not have been done. I have allready sat Deale about collecting the Money & as fast as it comes in it shall be remitted.

We dont know what is the fate of Detroit, Machili-machinack & St: Josephs, but Presq'Isle, Sanduski, LeBeuf & Venango are cut off & the poor Soldiers butcher'd all except a very few. Presq'Isle surpriz'd us, because it was represented strong. Mr: Pitcher who was there, says it was well Palisado'd, or Stuckado'd I dont know the difference, had a good Ditch, coverd way & a Glacis, dont laugh. I'll use no more terms of Art I dont understand. Provision & Ammunition I do & of these they had enough. The General has ask'd no Men, his honor told us in Council, he hop'd to do without them. I doubt it very much, 'tis a serious Affair in my opinion,

⁷⁴ This, and many of the following letters to Gen. Robert Monckton, are printed in the *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, 4th series, IX and X, the "Aspinwall Papers."

⁷⁵ Probably Samuel Deall, whose manuscript account books, in the library of the N. Y. Hist. Soc., cover the years 1759-1775, and record sales of goods to General Monckton, John Watts, the Coldens, the De Lanceys, and many other N. Y. families.

it must be Numbers & activity to hunt such a parcell of Wolves to their retreats & lurking places, defensive work cannot do. The Broad Brims of Pennsylvania voted seven hundred Men to cover their Harvest, the General sent Coll: Robinson to ask them. No, but they might as well have said, yes, & have savd their Credit, for I suppose they will never be raisd. The Governor⁷⁶ told the Colonel if he was to consent to it, the populace would pull down his house. Norris⁷⁷ the Speaker when he was pressd to put them under the General's Command as a Matter of right, said they were no Soldiers, only armd Peasants. Capt: Dalyel with about three hundred Men left Oswego 3d Instant it is said destind to Detroit, farther I know not, but should not be surprizd to hear he had lost the Skin off his head, among the mysterious & savage Race of Vermin.

Mr: Temple I beleive will get Mr: Apthorp to act for him, he offer'd to make me Principal on Condition I would give him part of the Emolument, till a new Appointment took place, but I thought it too late, a Body would feel queer to be superseded. I am ever
Every Body says, come back

Per the pitt packet

New York 25th July 1763

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

Since the foregoing I am favoured with yours of 7th & 8th April & heartily congratulate you on the Success of your Son, which I communicated to G: Monckton, who does the same, he saild near a Month ago in one Capt: Davis a Merchantmen, for London & is by this time we hope arrivd, his Furniture we have sold all since he left us. You would not think I had deservd, either a greater Loss, or more trouble if you had represented me in Astins Affairs. One perplexity came so gradually upon

⁷⁶ James Hamilton, Lieut. Governor.

⁷⁷ Isaac Norris.

the back of another, that it was allmost impossible to tell where to stop, & by that means the Sloop becoming near Loaded, I could not sell her. I would send your Account, but leisure does not permit. I beleive tho' from a Cursory View, stopping the £ 145 Sterling & £ 130.7.1 Barbados Currancy will be rather overdoing the Matter, as I shall fall here in your Debt with these two Articles Credited, between one & Two hundred Pounds this Currancy. Rum is from 3/9 to 4/ per Gallon Exchange 90 per Ct: As I imagine your Stock of Flour especially, must be exhausted I have sent by the Bearer Capt: Alexander Cunningham 4 Barrels with a Cask containing 12 Hams amounting per Account to £ 14.8.8. I dont remember I sent you an Account of the Hams & Beavers conveyd round to Philadelphia for forward. It is now inclosed making £ 14.17.4. The Hams Mr: Allen supplyd cost £ 22.17.11, that Money, which as Exchange regulates at 6 $\frac{2}{3}$ per Ct: Dollars being allways the Standard amounts to £ 24.8.5 Currancy. The Indians are proving dangerous Neighbours, now the French are removd, their plan seems extensive & determind, all the Posts are cut off upon the Communication between Lake Erie & Pittsburg, Viz: Sanduski, Presq'Isle, LeBeuf & Venango. Detroit they attempted both by force & fraud but miscarryd; Not having any particular information, for they seldom spare any Body to tell their Tale; We cannot reconcile to ourselves the Loss of Presq'Isle as it was a respectable fortification of the kind, well stockadod as they call it, with a Ditch, coverd Way & Glacis, & well stockd with Provision & Ammunitions.

Capt: Dalyel the Generals Aid De Camp is gone with a party of about three hundred Men to Niagara & Detroit, his farther destination is not publickly known but supposd to strike a Stroke if it be feasible. No Provincials have yet been ask'd except 700 Voted at Philadelphia to cover the Harvest, which were refusd to be put under the Command of the General, under a pretence that they were not Soldiers, but arm'd Peasants. 172 that this Colony Continud in Garrison during the ab-

sence of the Regulars, as their Quota, to be dischargd 1st Instant, upon being ask'd for are continu'd, the Regulars mustering so very thin in the prodigious Tracts they occupy, & Canada must be bridled. I have sent you the disposition of the Regiments in America as it came from England. Your Nephew is in the 46th which is expected among some others every Moment from the Havanna.

As what incorrect Intelligence I am able to give, you'll plainly perceive is for private Information only, I need not hint it's going no farther, an officiousness this way is not much relish'd by our Military Commanders.

If the Account we have be true, that General Keppel for want of Intelligence from Home would sail 10th May for Brittain with all the Troops when the Garrison was deliverd up, except the handfull sent to Pensicola & Augustine, it will disconcert the necessary Operations here strangely in the untoward State we are with the Savages. General Amherst was advisd from Home that the Packet saild for the West Indies 10th May with the Dispatches for the respective Military Governors. Is it not amazing that the definitive Treaty should be sign'd 10th Feb: & yet these necessary Directions be postpon'd so long & even entrusted in that hazardous Navigation to one Conveyance. But nothing now must surprize us, tho' this place is the Residence of the Commander in Chief in America, no Orders came to proclaim peace till three or four days ago, the distance of time is so great, a party Spirit inflam'd by such a violent Genius as Mr: Wilks seems to have destroy'd all reflection order & good Government.

29th. I have just got the following Note from Albany "The Indian Congress is broke up at the German Flatts, they have brightend the Chain once more all but the Seneca's & the hithermost Castle of Mohawks, of the former there was not one at the Congress & the latter seem disgusted about some Land Affair." The Seneca's you'll observe are reckond as numerous as all the rest

of the Six Nations put together & are thought to have assisted the Foreign Indians in destroying the Forts.

30th. The Packet it seems overtook the Fleet at Sea three or four days after they left the Havanna, those destined for this place arrived yesterday afternoon under Convoy of the Dublin. And yesterday too I received the Copy of your favour of 5th July by Capt: Jenkins,⁷⁸ Capt: Chester not arrived. Such a great Quantity of Rum as the Ship has brought must affect the Market. I wish as you was obliged to add to the Quantity by the Schooner it had been on my Account. I was only paying you whatever Ballance may appear, by Bill or Gold as you choose, which I believe would not be a great deal. I am glad Astins Account is not settled at Barbados, it was with reluctance I transferred it thither, but 'twas his absolute Order. The other Bill for £ 200 Sterling drawn by Barrell of Newberry for his use is at last come back Protested. I am with a sincere respect.

Per the Snow Charlotte, Capt. Cuningham.

New York 26th July 1763

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

I could wish to hear from you to know what Steps I am to take with respect to your Insurance on the Little Molly as I shall wait your Directions before I finally settle it. The Hostage I am sorry to hear is a close Prisoner yet in France, there is a Letter from him the 28th April last, complaining most heavily as he certainly has just reason to do, it having almost cost him his Life. What to attribute it to I don't know, but he has sent a Power hither against Albouy & must & will have redress somewhere.

I thought it had been left to Brig: Rufane, surely

⁷⁸ Charles Jenkins, captain of the ship *Hawk*, from Barbados. Weyman's *N. Y. Gazette*, Aug. 1, 1763.

he could not designedly have been guilty of such an inhumanity, it is impossible. I am

Per Capt. Cuningham

New York 29th July 1763

EDWARD ANTILL ESQ:

Blair has deliverd me the Dollars which shall wait your farther Orders, as no Conveyance offers to Ireland or near it but as Transactions are very easy between that Kingdom & any part of England, London particularly I beleave it would be as well to send the Dollars thither & let Mr: Gordon draw for the Value, tho was the Case my own I would order the Linens from London itself because you have regular Conveyances from thence & not from Irland & I am told the difference in price is very trifling however Judge for yourself.

Mr: Moses Franks is acquainted with Mr. Lowndes & receivd from him a small Legacy for poor Fanny Barbarie that I transacted if you approve of it he shall become the Security & the Money may be drawn out of the Funds at the most proper time, but when it does get this side the Water, you will think of guarding against the depretiation of American Paper otherwise the remedy may prove worse than the disease, our Money may fall off from Sterling more than the difference of Interest. I wish it was in my power to serve your Son in the way you & he choose, but it really is not, I have my hands full of my own Boys & not Business to employ them which is the worst Situation a Youth can be in, neither do I know a proper Person in the City to recommend him to. I tryd till I was tyred for Mr: Hollands Son, but to little purpose so I did for Doctor Mercers to as little. I wish it was otherwise, as my inclination is very much disposd to do it.

My regards to Mrs: Antill & the young Folks & beleave me very truely

New York 30th July 1763

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

I am this Minute favoured with yours of 7th May (a Copy) & 5th July an Original, by Capt: Jenkins & shall do all in my power to serve you, but the Insurers I am convinced will not now relax as they have a determination in their favour. I shall therefore be obligd to take up with the Award, but expect to get a return of Premium all except vessel from Martinique to Barbados. What can be done with Hymsers without Evidence, at Barbados you might have frightend him, but here he will have Confidence as he knows we can prove nothing, however what can shall be done. I am

Having a few Minutes to Spare I have hurryd over a Copy of your Account as inclos'd, leaving a Ballance in my favour of £ 155.1.7. The Matters of Insurance not being liquidated, of Course are not carry'd to Account. I wish it had been in my power to have servd you more in them than I hitherto have been or I am sure still shall be able to do, however this is certain, that I have acted with more Zeal in conducting them than if they had been my own, tho' I cant say the Issue has answer'd my Expectation. I am

I gave one of Hymer's Bills of Lading to Mr. Niles
Per Snow Charlotte, Capt. Cuningham & Via Philadelphia to J. H.

New York 30th July 1763

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

DEAR SIR

Having an Hour or two allowd me more than I expected I send you a Transcript of your Account Ballance in your Favour £ 129.18. As I foresee this large Quantity of Rum arriving at once with Mr: Wickham whom I have not yet had the pleasure of seeing or receiving a recommendation, I am told he has from you, must considerably affect the Market which it is not in my power to con-

troul, it gives me concern that you have shipt the Rum in Capt: Chester to serve me, that you had no inclination otherwise to do, I will therefore if you approve of it, & will send me Notice of your Approbation with the Invoice, take it to myself on the Arrival, paying Insurance if you have paid it, or adding it to the Invoice as it would have been underwrote here or in England, & whatever Ballance of Account shall be then coming to you I will either remit to England in Bills from hence or send you Gold to Barbados at my own risque, that you may be no sufferer by doing a friendly deed. Capt: Clarke I hear left the Havanna for Barbados some time before the rendition of the place, his health I suppose requiring it. My Compliments to him & beleive me

July 31st. Capt. Chester I am told is arrivd tho I have not yet seen him.

Per Snow Charlotte, Capt. Cuningham, & Via Philadelphia to J. H.

New York 31st July 1763

HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON
DEAR SIR

My last was 23d Inst. by the pitt packet. I can write you scarce any thing now that Capt. Wood will not personally communicate to you better. He gets home I beleive to be cured of the Malade de Pais. Strange!

Deale has paid me a thousand pounds which I shall remit by the next Conveyance. This is a surprize upon us, & the day of rest, however I have so far broke in upon it, as to inclose you two packets & a Letter that have fallen into my hands, since I wrote you last.

Indian Affairs are not at all mended, at a Treaty held at the German Flatts, not one of the Seneca's appeard, the rest brightend the Chain, except one Castle of the Mohawks, who are sullen about the patent so often complained of, which in the Treaty they stiled their "Bread Lane". I am afraid that confounded patent will bring

mischief upon us yet. Clock the fellow that we prosecuted was try'd at Albany & came off triumphant. These vile Dutch will Swear any thing for one another. My respects to all friends & still beleive me Dear Sir

Nothing had been done since you left us, but pro-roguing the Assembly. The old man still in the Country.

Per the Dublin

Aug. 1. Wrote him of the Demolition of all the advanced posts, except Detroit. Of Capt. Campbell's cruel Death. Of Cap. Dalys being seen on the South side of Lake Erie & visiting the Ruins of Presq'Isle and of Major Gorham's going out with about 200 Men pretty much the same Rout. N. B. This Letter return'd the ship being saild.

New York 9th August 1763

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

The foregoing patch'd piece of Work is a Copy of my last by Capt: Cunningham. As Mr: Wickham sells his Rum out by the single hhd: for 3/6 I am obligd to do the same or become an idle Spectator, which the Prospect of a Market does not much argue for. I have therefore sold at that rate of yours thirteen, & one at 3/8 on some Credit. Of my own about the same proportion on the same Terms. We have Letters from England by the Packet ⁷⁹ to the middle of June. Mr: Porter who saild from hence before G: Monckton writes me a Coalition is much talkd of, Oeconomy is the Word, the Rage of party something coold & the furious Tribune Wilks, like to fall through.

Nothing New, relative to our Indian Affairs, but repeated Mischiefs and Barbaritys. Inclosd are the last Prints. I am allways

inclosd to Josh. Howell

⁷⁹ The *Harriot* packet, Capt. Thomas Robinson, reached N. Y. Aug. 7, 1763. Weyman's *N. Y. Gazette*, Aug. 8, 1763.

New York 9th August 1763

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR JEFFERY AMHERST

SIR

I have the honour to return to your Excellency Messrs: Smith & Nutts Account of Barrack Necessarys provided by Gov: Boone's Orders for the Spanish Prisoners forced by Distress into Carolina, On their Voyage from the Havanna to Cadiz. When the Account was before offerd to your Excellency by Mr: Mortier, the Vouchers with Gov: Boone's Order were required, which are now added. I am with the greatest respect

New York 11th August 1763

MR: JOSHUA HOWELL

SIR

As you know most of the matter I send you the inclosd Paragraph relating to Hymer's Conduct in regard to the Money you Shipt on board of him & as the fellow seems to be a Thief I think every Step ought to be taken to bring him to Justice, as an Example to others of his Calling, who (too many of them) are more restrained by fear than principle & therefore ought never to go unpunishd, when they behave in such a manner.

Per Mr. Child

New York 13th August 1763

ROBERT PORTER ESQ:

SIR

Soon after writing your Letter of 17th June I presume mine of 7th of the same Month must have reachd you, & presently after, a Line of the 11th, each of them inclosing a Letter from Coll: Wilmot on the subject of his ill usage from Mr: Calcraft, which he is better able to descant upon than I am, & therefore it had better rest with him, but Mitchells silence surprizes me, I have

had various Letters from him as far up as the 7th June & he takes no more notice of the Colonel or his Pay in any of them, than if the one was in the Bowels of the Earth & the other in Mr: Calcrafts strong Box. As the Colonel is expected here soon from Montreal I am advisd to keep your Letter for him till he arrives. I dont know how to persuade myself he has a Method of dissipating Money unknown to you, his Character is too good & his mind too candid to deal in darkness, as he must have done, if he has not been illtreated some how or other of late. My suspicions I own are much in his favour. However be that as it will, I shall not draw upon you at all, but shall only send a Copy of the Transaction to Sir Will: Baker, that you & he may know how to settle it, when it is convenient, in the mean time if I am paid any thing on this side the Water, which must be very soon if at all, you shall know it without delay. Our Governor & his family I hope got home safe & pleasantly, he must make hast back or he wont keep pace with peoples Wishes, Party Spirit must be of our side, surely no Man would stay in a Country, where Violence, ill Nature & Opposition rules the Roast. Unless he could play his Cards, as our friend Barré has done, who seems to have made a good Game of it, better than Trantie itself by half. The Savages have been playing quite another Game with us here, the Devil of a Post or Fort have they left us beyond Pittsburg, on the one Communication or beyond Niagara on the other, except Detroit, which Major Gladwin ⁸⁰ has got great Credit in defending, such puissant Warriours are this Sable Species become. Poor Donald Campbell who commanded there before Gladwin, trusting too much to the good Offices he had done these ungratefull Vermin ventur'd among them, under the pretence of a Treaty they invited him to, the Consequence of which was, one of their Sachems being killd from the Fort, while they perfidiously kept him confind, in a rage he was cruelly Butcher'd & his Body treated with the greatest Brutality. Thus lament-

⁸⁰ Henry Gladwin.

ably one of the best hearted Men in the world ended his days to the concern of every body. God grant you and I tho' we must be worm eaten at last, a more civilizd exit. I am very truely

Coll: Amherst has been unwell, a good while, the rest of the Shop stout as usual. Coll: Robinson embarking for St: Augustine, Pensicola, Mobile &ca: to fix the Garisons.

Per the Harriott Packet & Capt. Chambers ⁸¹

New York 13th August 1763

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

The other side contains a Copy of my last of 22d July I have since none of your favours to acknowledge. I beg leave to inclose you the Account of two Protested Bills drawn by Coll: Willmot on Mr: Calcraft for which Mr: Porter has made himself accountable by a Note annexd to the Account & may possibly if it be convenient call upon you to settle it, as I have wrote him the Account is lodgd with you, when he shall think fit to do it. Mr: Porter was Secretary to G: Monckton on his Expedition to the West Indies & has allways behavd with great propriety during a pretty long residence at Hallifax & several other parts of America in publick Office, chiefly relative to Money Matters. Indian Affairs are in pretty much the same Situation, all the posts taken beyond Pittsburg & Niagara, Detroit excepted, which was vigilantly defended by Major Gladwin. How we shall bring the Enemy to a respectable peace I dont yet see, & tamely submitting to such Insults, not only gives them an Importance that must have very dangerous Consequences, but betrays in our selves a weakness, that they cannot fail to make a bad use of.

Per the Harriott Packet & Capt. Chambers

⁸¹ The snow *Thomas and Waddell*, James Chambers, master, sailed from N. Y. for Bristol on Aug. 25, 1763. *N. Y. Mercury*, Aug. 29, 1763.

New York 13th August 1763

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

A day or two ago the Packet brought me your favour of 17th June & some little time before Capt: Simpson that of 11th May, with the Stockins which seem to be very good, & for which I thank you. When I hear the Devil has possession of that Whorebird of a Secretary, as he certainly must when he leaves this Stage, it will give me great Comfort to think he is receiving the reward of his Demerit which he will never do in this depravd Age, while he remains upon earth.

I have no Objection as I before told you to take the right Honourable's Obligation if it can be done properly & without giving Offence. He behaves very unexceptionably & we are all very well together, for which reason I would by no means throw a stumbling Block in the Way, if it could be avoided. He is at present in the Country, when he comes to Town, your father⁸² will touch the String, I really should not imagine much difficulty in it. My Kinsman John Riddell desird me to be concernd in an India Ship, to serve his Brother, as I am allways disposd to serve these two modest diligent Scotsmen, I answerd in the Affirmative, leaving it to him & you to manage it for me as you would for yourselves, my perfect ignorance of the Business putting it out of my power to say a Word upon the Subject. Nothing has been or could be done this Voyage it seems, for some Technical reasons given me, but should the thing recurr, I must still desire the same favour of you.

Mr: Edward Nicoll a Man of a very good fortune here has a Brother in England a Namesake of mine & a sort of relation too over the left shoulder, who is soliciting some Post, having marryd a Daughter of Capt: Warren Lisle, Surveyor of Weymouth, &ca:

⁸² Jacob Franks, father of Moses and David Franks, was a prominent and honoured Jewish merchant of New York. He married Abigail Levy, a daughter of Moses Levy of N. Y. See *Pub. Amer. Jewish Hist. Soc.*, IV, 190; XVIII, 312-14; XXII, 39-40; XXV, 78-79. His obituary was printed in *Holt's N. Y. Journal*, Jan. 26, 1769.

This Mr: John Nicoll he desires me to give a Credit on you, for five hundred pounds Sterling, which I very willingly do, tho' he probably will not want it, and I shall take it as a particular favour if you would set him right with your Advice if he should want it, in such a bewilderd or rather bewildring City as London. The Man is sober, modest & without any Vice that I know of, but not I beleive very conversant in the world, tho' he has had the honour of serving his Majesty some years in the Navy.

Our Indian Affairs are not mended, by Fraud or Force we have lost every Post beyond Pittsburg, upon one Communication, and beyond Niagara upon tother, except Detroit, which has been gallantly & sensibly defended by Major Gladwin. Some partys are out on our side, but we have not heard of any Feats done yet. Capt: Dalysel the Generals Aid De Camp was with about three hundred men got the length of where Presq'Isle stood, but hearing Detroit was safe & the Indians retird, it is said he is halted there in order to rebuild the Fort, as absolutely necessary to keep up the Communications. I remain very truly

The 3d Bill for Neilson's use is inclos'd Value £ 200 Sterling dated 5th July No. 760.

Per the Harriot packet & Capt. Chambers

New York 13th August 1763

SIR CHARLES HARDY

DEAR SIR

My last was 11th June by the Cumberland Packet. I am since favourd with yours of 5th of the same Month, covering another for your Brother which I cant but say I had rather have returnd to you, but his residence still in America gave me the secondary pleasure of delivering it, & with my own hand. His Answer inclosd will tell you his Intentions, which have not been bad in theory at any time, but I could wish they were a little more animated

in the Execution, he should have been bred at Sea to have got a little more D—— in him as Sailors say, which is become as necessary in our Voyage thro' this political Life (I cant call it natural) as Shoes to a Mans Feet or a Cockade to a Soldier.

Our politicians dont think it worth while to turn their Heads any more to plans of reformation, or any thing else that concerns the Mother Country, except paying their Debts & that neither if they could avoid it, they look upon the Mother as in a Delirium & till she recovers, they might as well preach in B—l—m or what's as bad attempt to civilize our savage Indian Brethren.

Six or Eight Inches Ploughing will be nothing to you who are used to go Three times as many feet, there is this difference indeed against you, that you turn up the furrow now at your own Cost, & before, medling John Bull's strong Back did the Business. We have now not one Post or Fort left from Pittsburg outwards on the one Communication or from Niagara on the other, except Detroit which the Military Gentlemen say has been preserv'd by Major Gladwin's Caution & gallantry. Capt: Dalyel the Generals Aid De Camp, led a party of about three hundred Men to it's Succour, but by the time he had got the length of Presq'Isle, he was informd the Indians were both tired & retired, & it's now said he is halted there to rebuild the Fort, in order to keep up the Communications, that you know being a material Pass.

Would you beleive it Daddy Horsemanden has entered the Lists with Miss Jevon,⁸³ Mrs: Hayne's Sister & is as Juvinile a Bridegroom as you could desire to see of above three score & ten. I hear nothing of Mr: Barons lately, my Compliments to him, I hope he is well, & that this in the old fashion'd stile may find you perfectly so too sincerely wishes, Dear Sir

⁸³ Probably Anne Jevon, sister of Mrs. Jane Haynes, widow of Joseph Haynes, whose will, proved May 9, 1763, mentions them as his sister-in-law and wife. (*N. Y. H. S. Coll. 1897, Abstracts of Wills*, VI, 231-32.) In 1763, Chief Justice Daniel Horsmanden was in his seventy third year, as at his death, on Sept. 23, 1778, he was in his eighty eighth year. (*N. Y. Gazette*, Sept. 28, 1778).

New York 13th August 1763

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

If I could trust Gate's proving Compos, by the time he gets home, I need not say a word, & only inclose you Delancey & Watt's Bill on the Contractors for £ 500 Sterling at 90 per Ct: amounting to £ 950. Exchange is high but the Mohairs give it every day. I was calld upon for another Bill while I was filling up yours. You cant loose by it I think, Exchange being more likely to rise than fall. I tryd the old Beaux for some Silver or Gold, but you might as well have struck fire out of Flummery, indeed I beleive they want all. Coll: Robertson is embarking for the Southern Dominion ceded to us, St: Augustin, Pensicola, Mobille &ca: & takes with him a pretty good Sum for the Pay of the Troops &c: & other &cas: he returns as soon as the Posts are establishd, which I hope wont be soon. Not a Post or Fort left beyond Pittsburg or Niagara, except Detroit, which Gladwin has defended much to his honour, but poor Donald Campbell trusting himself among the Savage Vermin by way of Treaty, they detain'd him & while he was confin'd, a Sachem being killd they inhumanly butcher'd him. Capt: Dalyel was reachd the length of Presq'Isle but hearing Detroit was safe & the Indians retir'd, he is halted there it's said to rebuild the Fort. The General to be sure knows best, but I cannot think the partys out either numerous or strong enough, to punish & intimidate such Wretches into a peace. No Provincials have been or are like to be demanded this Season, nor any thing been done since you left us, but proroguing the Assembly. Eight Platoons of Twenty each are raising under Gorham to go up to the Lakes, but the work goes on very heavily, the critical time they say was lost, they were to have been raisd out of the Men from the Havanna, whose time was expir'd, but too much Oeconomy sufferd them to disperse.

Deale has yet paid me no more Money, he is busy col-

lecting. Coll: Amherst continues but poorly, your other friends all well, & allways remember you. My regards to the Children & to the few others I may have the honour of being known to in the Circle of your Acquaintance & beleive me very truely

I send you a Packet & a Letter lately left with me for you

Per the Harriot packet & Capt. Chambers

New York 13th August 1763

JOHN RIDDELL ESQ:

DEAR SIR

I am a Debtor for your favours of 12th March & 30th April. I could not have supposd if my Assistance had been wanted, the Ceremony of writing particularly to Mr: Franks would have been, as the Lawyers term it, a Sine qua Non. The thing in all Views was a matter of friendship, & wherever it appeard under my hand, whether to him or you, or both, I really judgd it a matter of indifference, however as a Person should not be too tenacious of his own opinion, I have now wrote to Mr: Franks which I hope will remove every difficulty if the Transaction recurrss again.

With respect to your Observation, if it should be found convenient and agreable to me, I must just answer as I did, It will be allways, at least, agreable to me to serve a friend, & is just now as convenient as ever, all the difficulty I lye under is a total Ignorance of the Business, & that is made up by the knowledge of my friends, into whose hands I have committed my Interest, & on whom I entirely rely. My Affection & good wishes attend your Sister, may she enjoy every Blessing a sympathy of Hearts can produce. My family are all well & offer their sincere regards to you & their new Cousin, pray add mine to them and beleive me, Dear Sir

Now we have got rid of the French, the Savages are upon our backs, they have taken every Post or Fort beyond Pittsburg & Niagara except Detroit, and butcherd poor Donald Campbell, Captain in the Royal Americans, who from good Offices done them, had Confidence enough to put himself in their power by way of Treaty. Almost all the people taken in the Posts were butcher'd.

Per the Harriot packet & Capt Chambers

New York 22d August 1763

MR: DANIEL MOORE
SIR

I am to thank you for your favour of 31st May with the remittance of seven hhds: Rum by Gibbs in Ballance of my old demand on Elrick, which your friendly care has brought to a much better Conclusion than ever I expected. And if your silence about Minot's teems with any thing near so good an Offspring, I shall think myself extremely well off in the End, tho' I thought my Case rather hard in the beginning. In the mean time permit me to return you my sincere acknowledgments for your past kind attention to my small Affairs & to assure you that I am very truly

New York 24th August 1763

MR: MOSES FRANKS
DEAR SIR

I have nothing to add to the foregoing but trouble, but as it is to serve an old friend & a worthy family I could not either with decency or inclination refuse. By the inclos'd Letter & discharge to Mr: Lowndes, tho' you were probably no Stranger to it before, it will appear, that Mrs: Norris left five hundred Pounds Sterling

in the Stocks to her Sister Mrs: Antill,⁸⁴ which she is desirous for the Benefit of her Children to translate hither, the Interest being so much better, almost double, providing Mr: Lowndes will consent to it, upon a Security given, which I must beg you will endeavor to effect, & I will counter secure you in the Way you like best. Mr: & Mrs: Antills Letter for Mr: Lowndes you will peruse Seal & Convey to him, as also their *full & final discharge* if he will grant their desire. They would choose if he does, that you would sell out the Stocks at the most convenient time to the best Advantage, that upon the first Notice the Value may be drawn for & let to Interest in such a manner as to guard against the Depretiation of our Paper Currancys, which I have by all means advisd them to take care of, as an Evil likely to happen. I am Dear Sir

Per Chambers to Bristoll

New York 25th August 1763

EDWARD ANTILL ESQ:

DEAR SIR

I have this day forwarded to Mr: Moses Franks by Capt: Chambers to Bristoll your Letter & discharge to Mr: Lowndes with Directions that if he accedes to the Proposal to sell your Interest out of the Stocks at the most convenient time for your Advantage & give us the earliest Notice of Mr: Lowndes Compliance that no time may be lost in drawing for the Value. You are right beyond doubt that taking Bonds either for Sterling or Dollars at the present rate will guard against depretiation & I could wish you would find out a Person in time, that would take it on those Terms to prevent a Loss that will attend the Money lying any time dead in our hands. If any Body offers here you shall know it.

⁸⁴ Euphemia Norris and Anne Antill, wife of Edward Antill (1701-1770), were daughters of Gov. Lewis Morris (1671-1746) of New Jersey. In her will, dated March 27, 1778, proved November 20, 1781, Mrs. Antill bequeathed to five grandchildren the money in the hands of Charles Lowndes, given her by the will of her sister, Euphemia Norris. *N. Y. H. S. Coll., 1901, Abstracts of Wills*, X, 153; Wm. Nelson, *Edward Antill and his Descendants* (Paterson, N. J., 1899).

No Vessel presenting for London or Ireland I have committed your 150 Dollars to the Care of Mr: Thomas Hayes of the House of Perry & Hayes, a punctual sagacious Man, who goes Passenger in Capt: Chambers above mentiond to Bristoll & will ship the Linens by the first proper Conveyance that offers after his Arrival. They may be bought I find as much to Advantage in Bristoll as any where and by embracing this opportunity they may not only be here probably this Season, but by Mr: Hayes' taking charge of the Money, the Freight is savd which nearly pays Insurance, which I have made at 3 per Ct: & Costs you as noted underneath 41/ Pollicey included. I could have sent a Bill of Exchange without the least inconveniency to myself, but Exchange runs so high, no less than 90 per Ct: that Silver is much preferable. My respects to all your family & beleive me

Per John Van Norden

N. B. Received the above 41/ by Mr. Duyckink 17th Sept. 1763

New York 25th August 1763

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

Doctor Catherwood will convey to you this Bundle which contains little else than Paper Stuff. Every thing remains in the old Position except that by an Express yesterday from Coll: Bouquet we are told that he was attackd 5th Inst: about twenty Six Miles from Pittsburg, three different times, but had as often repulsd the Enemy with the loss of about fifty Men, killd, wounded & missing, Capt: Lieut: Graham & Lieut. McIntosh of the R: Highlanders killd, & Dowe of the R: Americans shot thro' the Body. The 8th at Ligonier they had heard no more of the Coll: & therefore presume he has got to Pittsburg, but can this end the War, when all the Army we can muster is scarce able to reach an advanced Post in fear & trembling, or how is a Communication to be

kept up, where it requires nearly the whole force to pass. I wish we were decently out of this dirty scrape. About Sixty of the Ottawa's are in Counsel at Montreal, like Scotch Policy, one half of these people disclaim the measures of the other, & have brought there Etherington who was taken at Machilimachinack with some Traders Furrs &ca: Etherington came hither from Montreal & is returnd to Niagara to join the first Battalion, to which he belongs. he says they have not destroyd the Fort, but that the French live in & make use of it & are worse than the Indians, that the different Nations are much divided among themselves, but the Chippowees the most numerous, are the most mischievous, & that our own Six Nations he beleives are as bad as any & are at the Bottom of the mischief, from a discontent at the little importance they are now of, & the neglect real or imaginary they think themselves treated with. I am directed by the Governors of the College to return your Excellency their most gratefull acknowledgments for your generous Donation conferrd on them, they entertain the highest sense of your good will towards the Institution & would be glad long to pay you their personal respects. Deale has paid me no more Money. Inclosd is the second Bill of Delancey & Watts on the Contractors for £500 Sterling in your favour. I am allways

As I find Weyman was to send you the Papers, when he omits, I'll fullfill.

Per Capt. Chambers

New York 31st August 1763

MESSRS: SCOTT, PRINGLE CHEAP & Co:

GENT.

Nothing but the want of an Opportunity would have prevented my answering your several favours more punctually, but the extravagant Markets, on this side the Water, have in a manner interrupted our intercourse for a long time, they seem now to abate a little, but the

Country has gained such strength by the continued high prices of all kinds of produce, whether Necessaries of Life or Species of Commerce, that it will be some time before the Farmer can be brought to bend to his old Standard, so much against both his Interest & his inclination, however if the Savages can be reduced to reason, the Productions of so great a Territory will be so great that the quantity unequal to any known Demands that can probably happen must naturally do the Business. We thank you for the Wine by Capt: Munds, which came very seasonably & seems to be very good. The Bearer Capt: Lessly has thirty nine Pistareens for you, which if we do not mistake finishes that joint Account, which can never be begun again in the same persons, as we have lost our old industrious Captain, however Messrs: Cru-gers & myself don't despair of finding an opening e'er long of paying our respects to you with a better prospect of success than the late time have afforded, In the Interim I am for them and myself,

If we or any of our friends should begin a Business to Teneriffe your recommendation shall not be neglected. I had almost forgot to return you my thanks for the Citron which was extremely good

Per Capt. Lessly ⁸⁵ Copy via Philadelphia

New York 31st August 1763

MESSRS: SMITH & NUTT

GENT.

I wrote you last in Company by Capt: Whiting of your Independants under Date of 20th July. I am since indebted for your favours of 2d June & 15th July, with the former the Sales of my reduced 19 hhds: Rum by Smith, Twenty was the Original Number, but the misfortunes of the Voyage began, before the Voyage itself, strictly speaking, & destroyed one entirely going on board,

⁸⁵ Edmund Leslie, captain of the schooner *Industry*, from Madeira. Holt's N. Y. Gazette, Aug. 25, 1763.

four others on the passage, which reduced the unlucky Adventure one quarter exactly upon the whole, according to your Sales.

Upon the Receipt of your Vouchers &c^a: the General gave me a Warrant, without hesitation on the Pay Master for the Sterling Amount of your Account, £104.16.5. which was paid as all publick Money is, at $\frac{4}{8}$ Sterling the Dollar, making in the whole 449 $\frac{13}{56}$ which at $\frac{8}{100}$ this Currency amount to £179.13.7 & are carryd to your Credit. I have already advisd you Capt: Roger's Bill was paid at Boston in Gold, Value here £40.17.9. Many others have sufferd egregiously by that sad Man since.

What the rough Rice you was so kind as to send me cost, I dont know, but whatever be the Ballance of my Account be pleasd to send it in a small Bill on London, or in Rice (not rough) if it be reasonable, or a Bill upon this place, either of which may be had with the least trouble.

As the two Payments I have receivd here are in this Currancy & both in an unusual way I have calculated the Proceeds of the Rum as heretofore, by the Value of Dollars, between this place & Carolina, which governs all our Settlements & Draughts upon your Colony & amounts to £264.17.4. If you dislike this mode we must fall upon some other, the difference cant be great. I am

Two of your small Vouchers, as they are calld, I did not expect to pass, having no discharge upon them, & of course, no Vouchers, but all went smooth.

Per Capt. Calder, Copy Via Philadelphia to Mr. Stewart & triplicates per Mr. Hanson

New York 3d Sept. 1763

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

My last was 25th Ult: to the care of Doctor Catherwood through Bristoll, I have little to add to it upon

Business, but to inclose our third Bill on the Contractors for £500 Sterling. I gave Deale a Jog lately, but he says he has not been able to collect any good Sum together since the last & only Payment of £1015.17.6. I have accompted to Mr: Hardy for the Post Chaise £120 & paid your Subscription to the Greenwich Road £20 which goes on pretty well. By the Papers you will see Coll: Bouquet got to Pittsburg with the Loss of fifty killd & as many wounded out of about four hundred, his Success tho dearly bought enough, put us in tolerable Spirits, till last night Capt: Dalyell's Servant came from Detroit with the following very disagreeable piece of News. On the 31st of July about midnight he left Detroit with two hundred & fifty Men to surprize a number of Indians who lay about Two Miles & a half from the Fort, but before he reachd them, they got intelligence of his coming & with a much superior Number were prepar'd to receive him, the Action grew warm, & in it he had receivd two wounds allready, when a third shot laid him dead on the Spot, near forty of the party were wounded & twelve or fifteen killd, the Enemy its said lost Six or Eight killd & about double the number wounded, Capt: Grey of Gages or rather the 80th & Lieut: Brown of the 55th are among our wounded but likely to do well. The party when they found they had the worst of it, retir'd back to the Fort as decently as they could. Capt: Dalyls Death concerns us much as his Conduct was allways very uniform & sensible. I am allways

No Matters of Goverment at all transacted since you left us, except proroguing the Assembly. Things seem at present in a deep Sleep, the old Gentleman still in the Country. We cannot make a Council to do Business without a universal Summons from all Quarters, the Jerseys, Orange & Jamaica. I wish Mr. R—— was in the room of Mr. Martin, & some body else in Mr. Pratt's.

Per the Marlborough Transport to the care of Lieut. Hill

New York 3d Sept: 1763

SIR CHARLES HARDY

DEAR SIR

Tho' I wrote you so late as 24th Ult: by the Harriot Packet, by which opportunity your Brother also wrote, yet as probably he will not write by this Conveyance, the Marlborough Transport, that carrys Home the reduced Officers & much more reduced Soldiers, out of the Hospital, I embrace the opportunity to let you know he seems to be as far from a Conveyance to go Home, as he has been at any one time yet, not any proper Vessel being bound to Brittain, nor a Packet in Port, but the first that arrives if she can but find him room, he proposes to make use of, to get if possible, from this enchanted Ground.

Last Night we had the disagreeable Intelligence from Detroit that Capt: Dalyel the General's Aid De Camp, who was sent on Service thither, was killed 31st July in an attack upon the Indians, with a Command of Two Hundred & fifty Men, of which about Twelve or fifteen were left dead upon the Spott, & near Forty wounded, but carryd off safe to the Fort. The Enemy its said lost Six or Eight killd & about double the Number wounded, their Strength it seems exceeded what was expected, & they likewise got intelligence of the Design, so as to be properly prepar'd, the Place of Action was about Two & half Miles from the Fort. It gives every Body Concern, as Capt: Dalyel was much in Esteem among us, and well known. I am

Per the Marlborough Transport

New York 10th Sept: 1763

MR: WILLIAM BRYMER

SIR

Jamaica Spirits being rather dull here at 5/3 & having accidentally too great a Collection on my hands, to ease myself & serve my Neighbour I have sent by the Bearer

Capt: Guest of the Sloop *Elizabeth* five Puncheons as good & genuine as it came from Jamaica, which kind of Spirits is in highest esteem here. You will be so kind as to dispose of them for me & remit the Proceeds to Sir Will. Baker in London on my Account in any thing or way you judge best or to me here, as may be most eligible.

Per Capt. Guest ⁸⁶

New York 17th Sept: 1763

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

On the 3d Inst: I wrote you by Lieut: Hill who embarked in the Marlborough Transport, & sent our Papers up to that time. By Capt: Basset who goes in this Packet I send you the Papers by themselves as I am afraid you will think them hardly worth the Postage. Mr: Hardy & his family & Major Harvey go likewise in this Packet, but I beleive their Approaches to London will be but slow, the one from the number & Luggage, the other from Inclination.

Deale has yet paid me no more Money. I fancy it grows a scarce Commodity or he negligent, I will soon know which & see to remedy either, as time cannot make matters better, it may worse. Unfortunately for us at this advanced Season, One of the Vessels in Lake Erie sprung a Leake & went down with a whole Cargo of Provisions for Detroit, the swarthy Tribe it is said see their Error in puzzling about that Post & talk of cutting off the Communication between Niagara & Lake Erie. Woe betide the poor Folks at Detroit if they are able to carry their Threat into Execution, tis a long & an ugly Communication that, both by Land & by Water, before you reach the length where the Vessels can come to you in the Lake.

⁸⁶ Thomas Guest, master of the sloop *Elizabeth*, to Quebec. *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, Sept. 15, 1763.

No Men yet askd of the Colonys, nor one Transaction in Government that we have any hand in, except proroguing the Assembly, & we were forc'd to summons Lord Stirling quite from Long Hill even to do that, something ought certainly to be done to mend the Council. I always am

After I had finish'd my Letter Deale brought me £1027.18.6 Ballance of the Furniture, which I have not time to remit by this Conveyance. However he sends the Account of Sales he tells me now. Some small Debts are still outstanding which he hopes you will allow, if by chance they sho'd prove bad, tho' from the face of them I apprehend no danger, he is a timid sort of a body, but seems honest. I have paid Oliver DeLancey £76 for your Bill in his favour, & quite forgot to mention to you that Deale deliverd into my Care the Silver Urn or Tea thing. It woud not sell any thing near your price. It shall wait your Orders. I am

Per the Hallifax packet

N. B. Sent the News Papers of 19th by Capt. Basset

New York 19th Sept. 1763

ROBERT PORTER ESQ:

SIR

My last was 13th Ult. I have since your favour of 9th July & quite give up the Colonel, his Conduct has been dark & unfair indeed, I own nothing but stubborn facts, wou'd have convinc'd me he was capable of acting such a part, with indeed any body, even us contemptible Mohairs, but Expecially with an intimate freind and acquaintance, how hard a thing it is to find out the real Qualitys of the mind.

I informd you that I sent home to Sir William Baker a Copy of the transaction relating to the protested Bills, which you might settle at your leisure. The Original Bills I will send by this packet if I have time, she is just on

the Wing. If the Colonel wou'd but tip, as you have manag'd it, 'Twou'd be no bad thing, his Carcass is Certainly hardly worth preserving & if he looses the good Opinion of his Freinds I think he may very well go altogether. I sent both his Letters to Halifax by good Conveyances, the last went with the Generals Dispatches in a Transport touching there in her Way home. I am

Per the Hallifax packet & Sloop Bird ⁸⁷

N. B. Sept. 24th. I sent the above mentiond Bills Home by Mr. Hardy in the Hallifax packet, to Sir W. Baker

New York 19th Sept. 1763

SIR WILL: BAKER

SIR

At Mr. Porters request I send you the two original Bills & Protest Value £300 & £120 Sterling drawn by Coll: M. Willmot & assum'd by Mr: Porter, which he says are to be settled by John Puget Esq. of which I presume he will give you notice. I am

To the Care of Gov. Hardy

Sept. 24. The above I deliverd to Mr. Hardy, returning Home in the Hallifax packet, who promisd to take care of it.

Per Sloop Bird

New York 24th Sept: 1763

JOSIAH HARDY ESQ:

DEAR SIR

The Winds have been so very fine since you saild, we imagine you cannot have faild of a propitious Passage, which I heartily wish, more particularly on Account of Mrs. Hardy & the Young Ladys, to whom I beg my Compliments & good wishes. Anthony has just left me

⁸⁷The sloop *Bird*, Alexander Goodfellow, Captain, cleared from the N. Y. Custom House for London. *N. Y. Mercury*, Sept. 26, 1763.

to have an Eye on your Auction, which begins in a few Hours. Inclosd is a Bill of Lading for the Wine returnd from the Packet. I have order'd £125 Currency to be Insurd on it at 3 per Ct: The Extortionate Pilot made me pay £4 for bringing it up, Nay had the face to insist on £5 at first. My regards to Sir Charles & Squire Barrons & beleive me
per Sloop Bird

New York 24th Sept: 1763

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

DEAR SIR

I did intend to have sent some Gold by this Conveyance but postpond it too long. Inclosd is a Sales of the rum by Capt: Chester which you may either take to your own Account or charge to mine as I before proposd, the Proceeds are £453.6.8. If you take it to yourself, I think I have no Orders relative to the remittance.

What Ballance may then remain due to me at Barbados, I should like to have in rum if it is not rise pretty much, & if you should advance a hundred or two pounds, I can repay it in the way you like best. No Accounts from Mr: Monckton since he saild. Our Situation with the Indians is not an eligible one, they have gone so far, they must be beat or we despsid. I send some of our last Prints & remain

Exchange 90 per Ct: on London, Rum $3/8$ & $3/9$, Gold & Silver extremely scarce.

Per Capt. Jenkins ⁸⁸

New York 26th Sept: 1763

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

I would have answerd your favour of 25th July sooner but had nothing to observe to you. I am by no means

⁸⁸ Capt. Charles Jenkins, of the ship *Hawk*, to Barbados. Weyman's *N. Y. Gazette*, Sept. 26, 1763.

insensible of your stupid Masters hard Case, but it is irremediable & therefore as soon as Pork comes in which is now excessive dear I will lodge the Provisions in the Kings Store, take my Note & send you an Account of the Cost.

I have not heard lately from the Captain but am told he is very agreeably situated at Albany. The Bearer will deliver you the Trunk of Cloths he left with me which Wimble neglected to take, the Key is inclos'd & a receipt both for it & Coll: Shirleys Portmanteau, I beg you will be so good as to pay my Compliments to the Colonel & beleive me, Sir

Per Mr. Temple say Capt. Roach

New York 20th October 1763

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

I have your favour to acknowledge by Wimble, who says he will pay the Forty Pounds this Currancy when he has a little Leisure.

With respect to your Dispute with Capt: Adlam I shall deferr proceeding in it till I know what is the Effect of your Conversation with Major Hamilton of the 40th who told me before he left us some time, that he should speak to you on the Subject & he beleivd would convince you that Capt: Adlam was safe against any demand you could make upon him. If your Conversation has been fruitless & you still persist in your demand, furnish me with what Evidence you can & I will employ some Attorney in the Jersys where the Captain lives to commence a Suit, for I am convinced from what I have collected, he will refund not one shilling the Law does not compell him to. I beg leave to referr to my last of 26th Ult: by Capt: Roach attending the Trunk of Cloths Wimble left behind & acknowledging the Receipt of your favour of 25th July & remain very truly,

Per Mr. Temple

New York 28th October 1763

JOSIAH HARDY ESQ:

DEAR SIR

I hope by this time the Wine is in safe Custody. Mr. Barbarie has paid me £189.17.9 Ballance he says of your Account. The Sketch he sent me I inclose least he sho'd not. You have likewise John Mitchell's Bill on John Poumies dated at Louisbourg 23d Sep. Value £100 Sterling at 90 per Ct. Exchange amounting to £190 Currancy. I wou'd have remitted the Exact Ballance of your Account, but was uncertain whether some thing or other might not still occur, however it shall soon be done. My respects to Sir Charles, your family, & all friends. Our Situation with the Savages growes more & more unfavourable & I believe will give your Successor as well as some other of his Majestys representatives some trouble.

29th. As I now inclose a Letter from Mr. Barbarie that probably contains your Account I shall deferr the other Sketch till next Conveyance.

I beg my Compliments to Mrs. Hardy with the Letter inclos'd, which came a little too late to find her here. I am

Per Capt. Taylor ⁸⁹

New York 30th October 1763

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

My last was 17th Ult: by the Hallifax Packet when the Cumberland saild I was roving in the Woods as a Trustee about a family Law Suit. And at my return found your favour of 13th August at Home which gave me great pleasure to find you were all got safe & well on tother side the Water. I have paid your Compliments to all your friends in our Circle & returnd Mr: Cruger your

⁸⁹ John Taylor, of the brig *Charming Sally*, sailed from N. Y. for London on Nov. 3, 1763, carrying \$70,000 belonging to the merchants of the city. *N. Y. Mercury*, Nov. 7, 1763.

thanks for his Sons obliging Behaviour to your family at Bristoll. Napier is well & offers his best respects to you. Sir Jeffery is just returnd from an Excursion to Albany for ten or Twelve days to meet Sir William about Indian Affairs, which dont seem to be mended. You will have seen that they cut off a party some time ago on the Portage between Niagara & Lake Erie in consequence of their Threats & kill'd about Ninety Men out of about a hundred & fifteen or Twenty, these were supposd to be the Seneca's who are now openly declar'd against us & have threatend its said some of the rest of the Six Nations to extirpate them if they do not immediately join the Confederacy. Sir William is very apprehensive of his own safety & if he quits, the whole Mohawks River they say will break up. Our Assembly meet in common course Tuesday next a week. We have heard nothing yet of a demand of Men nor have we done any Business of Consequence or indeed that deserves a recapitulation since you left us. I heartily wish some vigorous measures may be taken relative to the Boundaries of the Colony or we shall be plagu'd to death with intestine disputes & divisions, but in the confusd Situation they are represented at Home, we have not Appearances much in our favour. Some Letters from Irland mention Lord Hildsboroughs being at the Head of the Board of Trade from whence it's inferrd Lord Shelburn succeeds Lord Egremont. A Propos, The College Agent Mr: Jay writes the Governors that he spoke to Lord Shelburn about a Grant of Land for the use of the College which his Lordship seemed to relish very well, if an Order could be obtained for the Governor to grant it I should imagine it would not be a wrong measure & if you would be so good as to countenance it, if it falls easily in your way, the Governors I am sure would be very gratefull for the favour. The Quantity must be submitted to the Bounty of the Crown, as it must be taken up at a great distance & will for a long time be of little Value, about Ten Thousand Acres has occur'd to me as a seemly Quantity enough, however that & every thing else relative to it

must be humbly submitted to the Donors. If the Quit Rent could be released as the distance will render the income for a long time unequal to any Burthen it would be a very great favour, but this & every other Circumstance As I have allready said must be, as it must be. The Governors have thought it Mr: Jays Duty to wait on you before he moves any further in it, to know your pleasure & pray your Countenance, which they will be very thankful for. I am directed to present to you their best respects & good wishes. And now for the Domestick Business. The Carved Work & Glass at the Fort I believe we shall get the Assembly to pay for, as it would be a pitty to move it & it will sell for a price far inferior to it's worth. The Farm Deale says is not in a cleaver way with respect to the Household Furniture & Impliments &ca:, One claims one thing & another another, till he says all will be gone without some directions. General Amherst has made no use of it. The Gardiner has had a pure time. Daddy Horsemanden has not yet paid for the Chariot, you know his Motion is slow at best & I dont think Matrimony has mended it. John Leary offers £50 for the Horse & will throw in the keeping, which he says is allmost Twenty Pounds more. I told him I could say nothing to it, but would let you know it. I am tird of writing & I am sure you must be much more so of reading if you are so indulgent as to go thro' this long scrawl at one Setting. I shall therefore beg my sincere respects to the family, Gates Sir Harry Seton & all friends & remain with unfeign'd regard

A report spreads very Current of G: A: going Home & G: Gage⁹⁰ coming down. I dont know what foundation it has. Inclosd is Delancey & Watts' Bill on Sir James Colebrooke & Partners Value £400 Sterling 90 per Ct: £760 Currancy. Bills are scarce even at that high rate.

Per Capt. Taylor

⁹⁰ Major-General Thomas Gage arrived in New York from Montreal on Wednesday evening, Nov. 16, 1763, to succeed Sir Jeffery Amherst as Commander-in-chief of the British troops in North America. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Nov. 17, 1763; *N. Y. Mercury*, Nov. 21, 1763.

New York 30th October 1763

Mr: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

I have your favours to thank you for of 22d July & 5th August. McLeanes Bill on Stewart I presume will prove good at last, expecially as Mr: Monckton was got Home. As to the Knives I can say nothing more about them than I have said.

I beleive your father & Lord Sterling have finish'd your Job, but the Sabbaths & Holidays of the Sons of Israel have prevented the Payment, which falls ultimately on me. It would have savd a stout Sum of Money if the Discharge had been made when Exchange was low 90 per Ct: is a heavy Condition. The Proceeds of the inclos'd Bill of Lading per the Bearer Capt: Taylor of the Brigantine Charming Sally, you will be so good as to give me Credit for, but employ the Money to your own purpose. I will by the next Conveyance, if I am called upon for Payment as Probably I shall, give your father a Bill on you for about a thousand Pounds, tho' I should be unwilling to part with Stock to a disadvantage, when it is well up, I dont care how soon it all goes. Our Indian Affairs do not look well, it were to be wishd we were out of them Creditably, but since we are so deeply engagd, it would look very unseemly to patch up a sneaking peace after suffering such glaring Insults & would be the ready way to bring a repetition of them upon us whenever these Vermin either got out of humour or had rather hunt the human than the Brute Species. I am

Per Capt. Taylor

New York 7th November 1763

CHARLES BAIRD ESQ:

SIR

I am sorry to inform you that your friends both one & tother have protested the Bill I indorsd for you here of £75 Sterling which is the more unkind as the Damages

run so high, 20 per Ct: re-exchange & Interest from the time of return 7 per Ct: which commenced some days ago. I have not yet paid the Money, but it is unavoidable & I should be glad of your directions how to do it, being Per post to G.

New York 10th November 1763

MR: JOHN RIDDELL Virginia

SIR

I am not certain that I have answerd your favour so far back as the 27th July, but I am very certain I have not the succeeding one of 18th Ult: However Mrs: Steel had communicated to her the Contents of the first, which no doubt she has told you, & so has Mrs: DeVisme of the last, if you have not serv'd some Ladys of your own Acquaintance better than you have been able to do these of mine, I am afraid you will hardly be a favourite of the Sex. None of your Produce will do by any Means as stated in your Letter of 18th Oct:, Oats here is but 18 d: to 2/, Corn 2/6 to 3, Wheat 5/. What Pork may be I dont know, but if you could meet with a little really Corn fed reasonable it would answer I beleive best, or suppose a double deckd Vessel bound to the Madeira, why not venture such a petty risque in some Commodity or other addressed to Scott Pringle Cheap & Co:.. Or as we shall probably raise some Provincials against the Savages a Cargo of recruits would be an excellent remittance, but as I hate to deal in my own likeness, I should recommend this kind of returns to some of my Neighbours by way of Experiment. We allways suspect the Quality of the Wines of the Neighbouring Colonys but granting yours *stout* enough & *pure* which are the two grand requisitions, the Price runs too high £45 to £50 is the Medium of this Market. I lately bought at Auction for £40 but that is reckond low at present tho I beleive it wont be so soon. I have some best Spanish White Powder Sugar in Boxes of three or Four Hundred Weight that Cost $9\frac{1}{4}$ & $9\frac{1}{2}$

Currency per pound & a little of the Second kind that cost 60/ per Ct: if these would answer I could send them you, but how can a remittance be devisd while both your Exchange & Productions are so high. Madeira I should imagine must be the thing with an assorted Cargo of Wheat Corn Flour &ca:. The Freight hither on Commodities of little Value, quite sinks them to nothing. I think I have between forty & fifty Boxes of this same Spanish Sugar, which has been waiting for some Market these several Months, & which it was generally thought a Peace & the restoration of the Havanna would produce. Single refined Sugar is at 14 d: per pound. I could easily convert One into tother by way of Swap, if it would mend the Matter, the refiners being fond of keeping the Kettle boiling without advancing the ready Mammon.

My Compliments to Coll: Hunter, if he remains in this Hemisphere as he is a Bird of Passage, we shall expect the periodical Visit.

Per Capt. Robinson

New York 15th Nov: 1763

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

Since the foregoing Capt: Kenny ⁹¹ lately brought me your favour of 22d July, which was an Age on it's way. We must learn to forget things that vex us & destroy our Peace, Anger & Resentment are sad Cankers to the Mind, & tho' ever so justly founded, rob it of its quiet, more than Satan himself can do, if we keep cool. It's true our Constitutions naturally are impregnated with this combustible, but few Philosophers think it the better part of the Composition, but on the contrary you know are levelling all their Precepts against it.

G: is as sulky with O. as you can be with him, he says he put the Letter in the Kennington's Bag himself, that none of his Letters ever miscarry & that if the Goods had

⁹¹ John Kenny, captain of the ship *King George*, from London. *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, Nov. 14, 21, 1763.

got safe, the Letter would have appeared & he been charged with the Premium. Who gave him this impression of O. I don't know, but he has got it so strongly, that it is in vain to reason with him about the Matter.

I drew on you 3d Inst: for a Thousand Pounds Sterling in favour of your father, which you will be pleased to charge me with, the Money by Taylor if it gets safe will pay I presume much the greater part of it. I refer you to him for the Settlement with his Lordship, As I now stand in your Shoes, I hope I shan't get slumpd.

General Amherst⁹² I suppose will be less abroad, than the younger part of his family; they all know of course more of American Transactions, than any people in it, being at the fountain head, sensible & attentive. Coll: Amherst⁹³ I have mentiond to you as one of the best disposd Men imaginable, there never was a more temperate orderly family than they all are, with hands not only clean, but unsuspected. You'll wonder from such fair Characteristicks how your Contracts Matters could have kept rubbing so disagreeably, so have I wonderd too, the Contract is wretchedly drawn to be sure, & admits Openings enough if People chose to lay hold of them. Thank God for this time we are seeing our way thro'. I am allways

Per Major Abercromby⁹⁴

New York 15th November 1763

JOSIAH HARDY ESQ:

SIR

Nothing occurs about Business but to inclose Mitchell's Second Bill, a third of the Sett you took with

⁹² Sir Jeffery Amherst sailed from N. Y. on Nov. 18, 1763, in His Majesty's sloop of war the *Weasel*. *N. Y. Mercury*, Nov. 21, 1763.

⁹³ William Amherst, Lieut.-colonel and Deputy Adjutant General in America, was a younger brother of Sir Jeffery Amherst. Millan's *Army List*, 1763; Burke's *Peerage*.

⁹⁴ James Abercromby, Major of the 78th Regt. of Foot, or the 2d Highland Battalion. Millan's *Army List*, 1763.

you, & the Sketch of Mr: Barbaries Account. From the Generals family who embark in this Ship you will know more of American Transactions than I can tell you, & as I cannot referr you to better Authoritys, I have only with my Compliments to Sir Charles & all the family to assure you that I truely am

The 3d of Mitchells Bills & the 4th of the Sett you carry'd with you are inclos'd.

Per Major Abercromby & Capt. Davis

New York 15th Nov: 1763

MESSRS: LASSELLES CLARKE & DALING

GENT.

I beleive I have answer'd all your favours except those of 18th & 30th June which were a long time getting hither, expecially the latter. It is well your demand on Mr: Smith is as inconsiderable as Mr: Smith himself, who by intemperance I am told has reduc'd his Mind, Body & estate to a piteable Situation & is a Bankrupt at the Mercy of his Creditors, with little or nothing to move their Compassion, but absolute distress of his own making. I will enquire into their Proceedings & if any Dividend should be made will take Care of your modicum however small it may be. Mr: Freeman's Lands are not growing better, but rather worse, a rupture with the Savages must ever make them so, till America is much better peopled. I am very truely

Per Major Abercromby

New York 15th November 1763

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

Tho' I have little to say I would not neglect answering your favour of 4th August by which I find the obsolete

Adventure of Nicorago Wood at last sold, & to an Advantage, tho' we should have been in higher luck I see by some others, if we had perseverd a' little longer, but what is more precarious than Markets.

I hope Mr: Hardy deliverd you safe the Original Bills to be settled with Mr: Puget in Behalf of Mr: Porter I sent by him.

You have now inclosd a Bill on Sir James Colebrooke & Partners for £80 Sterling drawn by Delancey & Watts for the use of Mr: Peter Delancey No: 768.

I am obligd to you for your tenders of Payment in my Behalf to General Monckton & Sir Harry Seton. I had a short Letter from the General soon after his Arrival, but he could say nothing about his Purposes of returning which we should have been very glad to hear. General Amherst & his family embark in this Sloop the Weasle, if you should be acquainted with the General, his Brother or Major Abercromby you would be far from being displeasd with their Manners or Conversation, the Colonel has a great deal of Spirit & is very much disposd to benevolent Offices. They are obligd to leave our Indian Affairs it's thought rather unlucky in point of time, for tho' G: Gage on whom the Command devolves, bears an unexceptionable Character, yet not being usd to so high a Sphere he may not at first act with that Confidence & firmness the perplexd Situation he is in requires, & which his Predecessor is so remarkable for. Fourteen Hundred Men are askd of this Colony, Six of the Jersys, & some of the Colonys to the Southward to act in the Spring, but as none it's said are demanded of all N: England I am fearfull our Assembly will vote no more than to defend their Frontiers, as it seems to be their Opinion, that the force at present requird is unequal to do the work with dispatch & Certainty & that the Eastern Governments ought to fix it with their Weight. I am very truely

Mr: Marston will answer your Letter.

Per Major Abercromby

New York 15th November 1763

CHRISTOPHER KILBY ESQ:

DEAR SIR

I told you some time ago that about four hundred Pounds Currency remaind due to Greenwich Hospital for Campbells Prize. I wish you would procure an Order how to remit it & to whom, it has allways lain ready, but Barrons you know once stopt it by a Power from Sir Charles Saunders Navy Treasurer, which he could not record for want of legal Proof & promised to get another. I hope we shall not be blamd for suspending the Payment of the Money, it allways was ready but since Mr: Barons in so long a time has produced no Power that he could Authenticate, I beg you would direct some body in London to take the necessary Steps, which surely cannot be difficult, or if it be inconvenient to you pray desire Sir Will: Baker to do it. I hope you settled all your Contract Affairs to your Mind, they say these are times of Oeconomy, I am sure they seem to be of Confusion. God Grant they may have a happy end. With great truth I remain

If you should want any Productions of America I should be glad of your Commands, or if Forbe's has any Scheme that I can serve him in, you will be so good as to mention it. Crawley told me he would be back. Poor James Scott wont do.

N. B. The rest of the Letter was about Mr. A. Sale at Boston & purchases at Blom[ingda]l[e], the Greenwich road & c:

Per Forbs, his Cook

New York 15th Nov: 1763

COLL: BARRÉ

DEAR SIR

How much writing does it save me, how much trouble does it save you, & how much better will it be said, by my sending a living Letter in the Person of our worthy

friend Coll: Amherst, who is much more regretted for, than I beleive he himself regrets, leaving America. To him therefore I shall referr all that is to be said on Generals, Kings, Sachems, Scalps & Battles, & turn myself to a Profession that does more Mischief than them all, the Profession of Physick, but as Doctor Clossy is a *rara Avis* (& he truely is so in one sense) tho' a Professor of that black Art, in hopes that he may be an exception to the general Rule, we will receive him into our Bosoms & give him at least an Acquaintance there, which he may improve *Secundum Artem*, but excuse what is past & I will be serious, the Doctors Case will require some Perseverance you know, but for the faculty, it is a healthy Climate, & we have in every family a kind of old stupid Drone, who is as usd to it, as a Horse to his Manger & the family as usd to him, so that he becomes a necessary Evil, interwoven in the Constitution, & has such hold, that it requires some time & superiority of Talents to work him out, besides People in America are very fond of good Pennyworths, they choose to have the Physick & the Advice go together, & had rather be workd to death than give their Money for simple Advice only, however all these Prepossessions & Prejudices I hope the Doctor by his Philosophy & Skill will get over, & prove both of use to himself & to the Publick.

Napier no doubt will write you in a properer language on this Subject than I can pretend to, but this you may be assur'd of in plain English, Doctor Clossy shall want no recommendation or Assistance I can give him.

We have quite a new Scene opening here, a New War, a New General, New Enemys & of course a New System of Operations, but where am I straying, I left this field clear from the Beginning to our friend the Colonel.

Lord Shelburn I see out of the Board of Trade, 'tis a very common Case, by the time a Man qualifys himself for an Office, & often before, if he is not very alert, the Office & he have nothing to say to one another.

'Tis high time Peace was established at Home on reasonable Terms as well as abroad that both Brittain &

her Colonys may feel the Effects flowing from harmonious Counsels, which they both seem very much to want, the Colonys I am sure do. The Doctor tells me you have a good deal of Business upon your hands from your Military Employment, nothing I think can be more gratefull to an active Mind than such a Situation, while Health remains to go through it, which that you may long enjoy, with every other Blessing in the old honest Phrase is the hearty wish of

Per Coll: Amherst

New York 23d Nov: 1763

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

I wrote you 15th Current by his Majesty's Sloop Weazel to the care of Major Abercromby. I have since been importun'd by Mr: Houdin ⁹⁵ Missionary for New Rochell in this Neighbourhood, a Canadian Priest turn'd Protestant & poor, whom it really would be Charity to assist, to trouble you with the Inclosd Power to solicit & receive for him his Arrears or Clearings, from Mr: Calcraft during the time he was Chaplain to the 48th Regiment. He left Canada before it was taken & upon our Expedition to Quebec, where it is said he behav'd very well, as he knew the Country, in order to have his Assistance both in Heaven & on Earth, they clap'd him Spiritual Leader to a Regiment of Foot. I wrote to Mr: Kilby some time ago & again lately to beg that he would obtain directions from Greenwich Hospital how to dispose of about Four Hundred Pounds Currancy that remains in our hands as joint Agents of a Prize brought in here by the Nightingale Capt: Campbell when Lord Loudoun came over, or if it was inconvenient to him to desire the favour of you to do it. Mr: Barons Brother in Law to Sir Charles Hardy brought a power from Admiral Saunders Treasurer to the Navy, to receive all such

⁹⁵ Rev. Michael Houdin. See Robert Bolton, *History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Westchester County* (N. Y., 1855), 453-70.

Moneys, but had neglected either to prove the Power at Home, or to bring Evidence to do it here. This stopt the Payment for that time, however he promised to remedy the defect very soon & as it was an Emolument to him he begged we would have a little patience till he could do it, which we consented to, providing it was not too long delayed, as we saw it was the Intent he should receive it by the former Power. There it has rested with him ever since which obliged me to write to Mr: Kilby to endeavour to get directions from Home, whom to pay it to or how to remit it. Tho' I am not conscious of any neglect or ill design yet it gives me some concern that so much time has been lost by one interposition or another which may have an ill Appearance where the reasons are not known. I am very sincerely

Per Capt. Jacobson & Capt. Davis ⁹⁶

New York 24th Nov: 1763

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

I wrote you 15th Inst: by my friend Major Abercromby who embarked in the Weazel Sloop of War with General Amherst & his family. If you should be a Stranger to the Major & choose to chat with him on our present State of Affairs, My Name will at any time introduce him to you, he is a sensible Open Companion & having been conversant long both in the Affairs of this Department & of Canada, is as intelligent perhaps as any person you will meet, if you should incline to see him pray offer him my Compliments.

This will be delivered you by your Nephew Jack,⁹⁷ who

⁹⁶ Christian Jacobson, of the ship *Hope*, and William Davis, of the ship *Edward*, which cleared from N. Y. for London. *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, Dec. 1, 1763.

⁹⁷ Jacob (John) Franks, son of David and Margaret (Evans) Franks, of Philadelphia. *Pub. Amer. Jewish Hist. Soc.*, XVIII, 213-14; IV, 199; *Penna. Mag. of Hist.*, XXIX, 315.

I am glad is taking his leave of a place that beyond doubt is the worst School for Youth of any of his Majestys Dominions, Ignorance, Vanity, Dress & Dissipation, being the reigning Characteristicks of their insipid Lives. When you knew it, there was some Emulation, some thirst of knowledge, some pride of becoming *really Men*, but the Tast[e] now is to be any thing else, that a total disregard of knowledge or a thought of being either of use or of Credit to their Country, can make them. Our College seems now to be in a reputable way & has the prospect of becoming more so. If it does instill into the minds of the rising Generation a proper Spirit, which it is to be hopd it will, the Institution will be of infinite use to the Publick. Your Nephew I take to be good humourd & tractable, ready enough to take Advice, but I suspect a little Volatile, time however if I should not be mistaken is generally an Antidote to that Distemper, in all but French Men. He can write very prettily, his Skill in Book keeping I apprehend not to be great, as he has been little conversant in that Branch of the Compting House, however as he understands figures well enough, that defect is easily remedyd, for my own part my Business has been so contracted since I dabled in Contract Matters, that I have scarce any Books to keep, Letter writing & other kind of scribbling & Correspondence seems to have filled up my time. I heartily wish Jack safe to you & that he may prove a Blessing & a happiness to himself & the family, which I dont in the least doubt, when I consider the hands he is falling into & the care that in Consequence of it will be taken of him in this very Critical time of Life. I am very truly

I have advisd you that I drew a Bill to your father for a thousand Pounds. As we know nothing of G: Monckton's Intent or Destination if he should be returnd, send the inclosd back.

Per Jack Franks

New York 24th Nov: 1763

HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

The foregoing long rough Scrawl I send you least the Original should miscarry, as it relates to some particulars it may not be improper for you to be acquainted with. Not one word have we heard from you since your Letters of the beginning of August soon after your Arrival. G: Amherst saild a week ago in the Weazel, he can tell you the Situation of Affairs in general, much better than I can, or indeed any body else. We all parted very well, O. & he rather cool, but I shall allways acknowledge & will gratefully return his great Politeness & Civility to me. My respects wait on him & Coll: Amherst, the Colonels benevolent Disposition every Body commends & respects. What measures will be pursu'd under the present Command, is not in my power to tell you, but from what I can collect without Doors, the Ideas of Indian Affairs differ. Mr: A. demanded of this Colony 1400 Men, of Jersey 600, of the Southward some for their own Frontiers, but none its said of all New England which the other Colonys do not relish. Jack Franks has your Papers Votes Speeches & Addresses, by which you will in some measure feel the Pulse of the House, they are at present squabbling about a Corporation Law that limits the Price of Provisions at Market, which does not at all set easy on the voracious Stomachs of the Country People, & which to speak with strict impartiality was both very precipitately & unseasonably made, if it was to be made at all. But their sense of the Generals requisition from what I can collect from some of the leading Members is this, that being most threatned they are content to vote & have voted 200 Men for the Western Frontier Ulster & Orange, one hundred for Albany to the Southwest, and three hundred to preserve the Communication between Fort Stanwyx & Oswego. If it is to be a general offensive War, they say, to do the Business effectually the whole requisition is unequal to the Task, the Troops will be cut

piece meal to pieces, the Enemy will gain Confidence & Strength by new Alliances, & therefore all the Colonys at least ought to be calld upon to make the work sure & expeditious, more especially as this kind of Warfare is in its nature so distressing by it's protraction. Jersey lyes couchant, waiting to see what this Colony does, & then will act in a sneaking Epitome as they allways do. This Colony besides subsisting the above Six Hundred Men continue likewise the One Hundred & Seventy Two that you kept in Service by Advice of Council after the Expiration of their time, so that including Officers it has above Eight Hundred Men Voted & on actual Service together. The Committee for Correspondence told me they intended to send you an Account of their Proceedings, with their reasons & ca: We have been teazd with Major Skeens exorbitant Claim, not having a Letter wrote by the Board of Trade to Gov: Delancey that fell into the Presidents hands dated 13th June 1760, he thinks we have trespassd on his rights, the Grant to the Artillery Company does comprehend some Settlements of his which we have left them to accommodate as well as they can, engaging the Artillery to give them the like Quantity adjoining their Tract if they do consent to resign his absolute Settlements, & his honour has hinted, that unless they do, their Grant shall not pass the Seals, so there is a queer jumble among them. However to pacify the Major & at the same time pay a respect to G: Amherst's great Promises to him, we have advisd his honour to grant him a Tract of Twenty five Thousand Acres in a Square comprehending the Falls of Wood Creek where he has a Mill, the Creek running pretty near through the middle of the Tract. The Assembly have yet sent us up no Bills, they have voted the three puisny Judges Two Hundred Salary each, the old Gentleman rests where he was & will be pure & gruff about it. Old S.⁹⁸ makes no figure upon the Bench, he wants his Sons able Talents. An Express they say brings an Account of the Moravian Mills at Bethlehem being burnt

⁹⁸ William Smith Sr. (1697-1769), father of William Smith Jr.

by the Indians, tis a pitty, they were of a fine Construc-
tion & it will distress the Settlement. I cannot for my
Life see yet a probable end of this infernal War, either
by Force or Treaty, the one is so difficult & the other so
uncertain & tame. My heartyest respects to my friend
Allen & his family. I receivd his wellcome Letter before
he set out for the North & answerd it very Circum-
stantially. His family are well. They have had a round
of Dinners Addresses &ca: on the Arrival of Mr: Penn ⁹⁹
but the Addresses of the Corporation & Clergy rather
seemd calculated for the Predecessor than the Person in
Possession, how the Assembly will incline is yet to
appear.

Second Bill for £400 Sterling is enclod.

Inclos'd to Moses Franks per Capt: Davis

New York 2d December 1763

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

DEAR SIR

I have your favours to acknowledge of 5th & 20th Oct.:.
It gives me pleasure to hear the Flour & Bacon by Cun-
ningham arrivd safe and provd to your satisfaction. Your
Supplies shall continue regularly as Conveyances offer,
but Trade is grown so Mysterious, it is not allways that
we can find out the real destination that is meant. The
Captain's Regiment is on Service in the Advanced Posts,
Coll: Browning I beleive at Oswego. I sent thither the
Letter inclosed to me for him some time ago, as I before
gave Notice. Mr: Franks being here I have given him
what little Gold I could collect and desird him either to
make up the remainder in Gold or a Bill on Barbados, but
to preferr the first. Exchange on London being 90 per Ct:
the Trade has swept off all the Gold & Silver for remit-

⁹⁹ John Penn arrived at Philadelphia from London at the end of October, 1763. His commission as lieutenant-governor was read at the Court House on Monday, Oct. 31, 1763. *Pennsylvania Gazette*, Nov. 3, 1763.

tances, & even given $2\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct: Advance, so that we have nothing remaining but Paper Currancy.

I have heard nothing from Mr: Monckton since his first Arrival, before he could form any Judgment of his own Measures, but as Mr: Amherst is gone Home I think it is probable he will come out again, especially as General Gage who succeeds at present here, has been long soliciting for leave to go to England. Mr: Allen was well at Scarborough leading a jovial Life, having been introduced to Lord Granby who is remarkable for Jollitry, he says however as soon as he has spent the Winter in England, he will think seriously of returning Home, being grown rather too old for the Taste of the Age.

Our last Advices were the middle of October, the Packet with the September Mail was lost to the Southward,¹⁰⁰ the Letters they say savd, but not come to hand. Mr: Pitt it's thought has hurt the Opposition, & helped to confirm the present Ministry, by insisting on too high Terms & Lord Bute even blamd for advising the very Terms that were offerd, as too condescending, tho' rejected. I am with truth

I have desird the Prints to be sent you from Philadelphia, the Proclamation is arrivd, that ascertains the four New Governments of Quebec, East Florida, West Florida, & the Grenades.

Memorandum to David Franks,¹⁰¹ 2d Dec. [1763]

Mr: Watts begs Mr: Franks would be so good as to send the Gold to Gedney Clarke Esq: by the safest & best Conveyance that offers to Barbados, if he could make up the Sum, Two Hundred & Twenty or Thirty

¹⁰⁰ The *Countess of Leicester* packet, Capt. Willson, which sailed for N. Y. from Falmouth on Sept. 14, 1763, was cast away Nov. 1, on the Currituck shoals, on the coast of North Carolina. Five men were drowned, it was said, in attempting to save the mail, which was found badly damaged, washed some distance away. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Dec. 8, 22, 1763.

¹⁰¹ David Franks, of Philadelphia, Pa., son of Jacob and Abigail (Levy) Franks, was born in N. Y. Sept. 23, 1720. He married Margaret, daughter of Peter Evans of Pennsylvania, Dec. 1743. He was a prominent citizen of Philadelphia. His will, proved July 22, 1794, is abstracted in *Penna. Mag. of Hist.*, XXIX, 315. See *Pub. Amer. Jewish Hist. Soc.*, I, 54-57, 103-4; IV, 197-99; XVIII, 213-14; XXV, 78-79; H. P. Rosenbach, *The Jews in Philadelphia prior to 1800* (Phila., 1883).

Pounds Barbados Money either in Gold or a Bill it would oblige him. Mr: Franks shall be re-embours'd in the Way he chooses. The remittance is on my own Account & risque. Pray send Mr. Clarke three or four of the last prints, and the Proclamation from England if you have it.

New York 6th December 1763

MESSRS: THOMAS PENINGTON & SON

GENTLEMEN

Pray be so good as to receive & place to my Credit the inclosd Bill for £75 Sterling drawn by Coll: Will: Byrd on Messrs: Farrell & Jones dated 22d Oct: at Sixty days Sight & you will oblige

Per the Pitt packet & King George ¹⁰²

New York 10th December 1763

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

My last was a terrible long one, by Jack Franks, not one Syllable have we had the pleasure of hearing from you since your first Arrivale. The October Male got here in course, but the preceeding of September was Shipwreck'd on the Coast of North Carolina, found very well soak'd at a great distance from the Vessel & is yet on it's way hither. Coll: (Philip's) Morris goes Home in this Packet & has your Papers Votes &ca: he will tell you personally what is doing here. I am sorry the Assembly out of dislike to the old Man has taken off the £200 they added to your Salary it looks too unsteady. General Gage I believe has made a requisition of all the Colonys for Men to act vigorously in the Spring but has got no An-

¹⁰² The *Pitt* packet, Capt. Brigstock, sailed from N. Y. Dec. 12, 1763. The brig *King George*, Capt. Thomas Erskine, cleared from the N. Y. Custom House for London. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Dec. 15, 22, 1763.

swer. Jersey rejected G. A.'s moderate demand for Six Hundred & Voted only two, with such mean Pay as it's thought the Governor cannot consent to, as it would entirely counteract the Service. Philadelphia is doing nothing. G. A. asked a thousand Men but the Assembly has not since sat. I have receivd of the Treasurer £136.19.7 for your Salary from the 1st to 25th June & £181.10.2½ from the old Gentleman for half the Salary from thence to the 1st September. Nothing else occurs to me but to subscribe myself, Dear Sir

We are passing many Bills, but sadly puzzled to make a Council, & after all to have a whole Branch of the Legislature trusted in the hands of three Men, the Majority of five, is too much. Wont Clarke ¹⁰³ resign? it does him no good. Martin's ¹⁰⁴ time is expird, poor Mr: Read ¹⁰⁵ again disappointed by Apthorp ¹⁰⁶ getting in the way.

Per the Pitt packet

New York 15th December 1763

MR: JOHN LLOYD ¹⁰⁷

SIR

I am favourd with yours of 1st Instant & am well pleasd to find my Account of your Bond in general right. The Beef you mention at Mr: Aspinwalls, being of so old a standing has entirely slipt my Memory, nor can I find any Traces of it any where, tho' you'll observe in the Credits of the Bond, I have all along been punctual to much smaller Articles, neither upon recourse to my Vessels can I find it any where apply'd to their use, tho' clear Accounts remain of them, however as we are all

¹⁰³ George Clarke Jr.

¹⁰⁴ Josiah Martin.

¹⁰⁵ Joseph Reade.

¹⁰⁶ Charles Ward Apthorp.

¹⁰⁷ John Lloyd (1711-1795) of Stamford, Conn., son of Henry Lloyd of the Manor of Queens Village, Lloyd's Neck, Long Island. The bond is printed in *Papers of the Lloyd Family*, I, 388-90 (*N. Y. H. S. Coll.*, 1926).

subject to Error, if you have made a Charge of them to me I shall be far from preferring my Correctness to yours, especially when you have the Affirmative on your side, but if it be a meer matter of Memory I should be apt to think the length of time has introduc'd some mistake or other, tho' upon the whole I referr the determination entirely to yourself. The Grass Seed I find Mr: O: Delancey had, it was sent to the late Lieut: Governor & never at all in my Possession. As you propose discharging the remainder of the Bond soon, it is hardly worth the trouble of renewing. You know it commenc'd a Matter of friendship not a Smithfield Bargain, so it has long remain'd, & so I would choose it should end, as it will allways give me a pleasure to continue what I allways have been, Sir

New York 17th December 1763

MONS. B: CARRIÉ NEG[OCIAN]T &CA:

SIR

I am desir'd to forward the inclosd to you by a safe Conveyance & to desire your Answer with as little delay as possible, the Lady being solicitous to know the Situation of her Affairs. I am

to Mr. Pintards care

New York 22d December 1763

WILLIAM ALLEN ESQ:

DEAR SIR

The inclosd Papers from Mr: & Mrs: White speak for themselves, as I have long known & had a regard for the family I have promis'd to recommend them to your good Offices, tho' I beleive it's unnecessary, Your own Acquaintance with the Heads of it, being full as early as mine. The Object in pursuit is a strange jumbled Affair & I should not be at all surprizd if it puzzled Mr: Lowndes how to act, if he does come into the Proposal

at all it must be by soothing, for he certainly can throw a stumbling Block in every Step of the way. The Evil Spirit of Pittman's Sister ought some how or other to be appeas'd too. Hoskins Opinion & Ch. Justice Pratts differ widely, the latter to me is clearly right. Nothing but an ample indemnification can I see prevail with Mr: Lowndes to part with the Money, this I am willing to join with Mr: White in giving either to him directly or to you as a Counter Security, if you undertake it either of which may be thought most adviseable or may be most lik'd. If Mr: H. moves in it with any Spirit 'tis more than I expect, so well am I acquainted with his Indolence, however surprizing things sometimes happen. I have told A. White if he gets the Money, he must build a Church with it, to make Atonement for robbing the poor. It is queer tho' after all, to give a favourite Sister a Donation out of so odd a fund, they impute it I have heard to the Brother who drew the Bill & was residuary Legatee.

N. B. The rest relates to news &c: not Copy'd.

Per Mr. Ross, Brigantine King George

New York 21st December 1763

MR: GOUVERNEUR ¹⁰⁸

SIR

You well know in Cases of Hypothication 25 & 30 per Ct: is allways allow'd to the West Indies. By this Hypothication you saw I lost £2.9. besides being out of my Money a Twelve Month. Is it not highly reasonable that when I took £400 risque of the Sloop from Mr: Astin, I should be allow'd the Insurance, & Commissions, for meerly receiving the Money at Barbados for which I am charg'd £23, being 5 per Ct: on £460. With respect to the Money advanced Gwillim I acted upon Mr: Astin's

¹⁰⁸ Nicolas Gouverneur [Gouverneur], according to the manuscript index at the beginning of the original letter book.

solemn Engagment under his own hand, in releiving a Stranger in distress, and acted I am confident as you & every other Man would have done, who was governd by the Principles of humanity & Justice, Mr: Astin's disputing it is no surprize to me, when I consider his Treatment of many others, particularly of Messrs: Maxwell & Udney of Antigo, instance upon instance, Mr: Barrell of New England & Mr: Willcocks of Philadelphia all open mouth'd at the same time. The £47.15. Insurance was in Consequence of his own directions receivd after the Sloop Saild. This with the Hypothication Bill coverd above £800, not a great deal more, the Vessel & Freight was worth about £1200, her Outfitt was above £500. I have chargd no Interest in the above Account, which I still reserve a power to do, from Mr: Astin's own Letters, if he presses the thing farther. The Seamens Wages I told you & I told Mr: Hendy I would pay, I mean the £38, when the Bottomr'y Bill was answerd & not before, & annexd them to the Account thus explain'd, I had been sufficiently in Advance all along for Mr: Astin, *which he has gratefully requited* & only because I secur'd myself when others from Injurys sustain'd were laying their hands upon every thing they could find belonging to him.

New York 27th December 1763

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

The 10th Inst. I had the pleasure of writing to you by the Pitt Packet which I beleive I may venture to referr to, as my Letter is not to pass thro' the Indian Country. We have to this day not heard a sylable from you since your first Arrivale, the Greenwich Road is ready & a very good one it is. The Indians you will see have made a Truce with Major Gladwin, with what View or from what Motive is uncertain, this good effect flowd from it however to that harrass'd Garrison, it permitted

the Major to collect the Provisions from the adjacent Inhabitants & to lay in a Stock both of food & fuel to 1st July next, at a distressd time when he had but fourteen days left & when Major Wilkins on whom his whole dependence lay by bad weather on the Lake had lost above Seventy of his party, most of the Provisions, many of his Batteax, all to a Trifle of his Ammunition & was obligd to return back to Niagara from whence he came. Moncrief was upon this Jaunt but has brought back his Belly as plump & as prominent as ever. I told you we have about Eight hundred Men in pay of this Colony now, the 172 you continu'd & the 300 to keep up the Communication between Fort Stanwyx & Oswego, under the Command of the General, the remainder to guard the Western Frontier, under the Command of the Governor. My regards to all friends & beleive me truly Dear Sir

per Capt. Berton ¹⁰⁹

New York 29th Dec: 1763

THE HON: GEN: MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I have allready wrote you by this Conveyance but forgot to mention that the Assembly were somewhat alarmd at a Letter from the Agent indicating the danger their Act was in of a repeal "For dividing the Great Patents" which certainly is a usefull Act, as it answers the purposes of the Crown, by putting these Patents in a State of Settlement, which they cannot otherwise be, as there are so many absentees, Minors & God knows what, besides a present repeal would injure many people who have been at a considerable Expence & mean I am sure very fairly to the Publick.

The lazy Committee I find have neither wrote to you nor the Agent, representing the State of the Colony,

¹⁰⁹ Peter Berton, captain of the ship *York*, to London. Weyman's *N. Y. Gazette*, Dec. 19, 1763; *N. Y. Mercury*, Jan. 2, 1764.

but as the Assembly is just broke up, they propose setting about it without any further delay.

We were yesterday in Council declaring War against New Hampshire for scandilously hawking about Townships to the highest Bidders, and taking in every ignorant Peasant both in this Colony & the Jersys for what Money they have to spare for Grants it's imagind they have not the least right to make. The Proclamation is not yet printed, you will have one when it is, Mr: Colden will send another to the Board of Trade. When will they make the Colonys so happy as to settle their Limits, 'tis a cruel Neglect. I forgot to tell you before, that the Two Pipes of Madeira lye safe asleep in my Cellar. I am allways

The good folks at Home are quite overshooting the Mark about Trade here, little do they think, the Mother Country will pay for it all at last, & when that happens, Commerce will be dispassionately Considerd, the Inter-course between the Dutch &ca: & the Colonys (I mean dry Goods every where) ought to be entirely suppressd, but the rigirous Execution of the Sugar Act is injurious, like Nine pins says Hudibrass, One Merchant knocks down another, the King Pinns that fall heaviest will fall at Home & Manufactorys feel the Weight of 'em.

Per Capt. Berton

New York 8th January 1764

MESSRS: MAXWELL & UDNY

SIRS

The inclosd Mr: Brymer desires me to recommend to Mr: Maxwell, in case his Partner Mr: Bayne should be removd off the Stage, which he suspects, not having heard from him a long time. If Mr: Bayne should be well & have any Letters to forward or if Mr: Maxwell or yourselves have any intelligence to give Mr: Brymer this is the Channel for Quebec above half the Year, thro' the back Country. Good Mr: Astin is violently disobligd with

me for securing myself, after your alarming information, if I had not done so, I should have been just the Simpleton he was looking for. I beleive I have not answer'd your favour this time Twelve Month, recommending Mr: Charles Baird Comptroller of Canada. While he continud here I shewd him all the Civilitys in my power & upon the Credit you was pleasd to give him indors'd a small Bill he drew on London for £75 Sterling, which very lately I was obligd to pay with 20 per Ct: re-exchange or damage, to my great surprize, for had the most distant suspicion come into my head of a Protest I would at least have savd the re-exchange, by ordering it to have been taken up at Home, since neither his Namesake James Baird on whom he drew, nor John Clarke to whom it was afterwards by direction offerd, would pay any honour to the Draught. I have wrote to Mr: Baird but have no Answer. I am

Per Capt. Wallace,¹¹⁰ Mr. Vansolings Brigantine & Capt. Tudor to St. Eustatia

New York 8th January 1764

MESSRS: BERE & BAIRD

GENTLEMEN

Mr: Brymer desires me to recommend the inclosd to your Address, least any Accident, or Death the common Lot of all Mortals, should have overtaken his friend & Partner Mr: Bayne, which he very much suspects from his long silence. If Mr: Bayne should be well & have any intelligence to send or if you should in his behalf, from October to May, this is the Channel to Canada thro the back Country. I am

Per Capt. Jno. Jauncey

¹¹⁰ Thomas Wallace, captain of the brig *Betsey*, cleared from N. Y. for Antigua. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Jan. 19, 1764.

New York 13th January 1764

MESSRS: SCOTT PRINGLE CHEAP & Co.

GENTLEMEN

My last was of 31st August by Capt: Lessly from hence with the small Ballance due from the Owners of the Virgin, a Copy went by the way of Philadelphia. At last the Ice seems to be broke to the Madeira & two or three Vessels are finding their way thither, among the rest the Bearer Capt: John Campbell in his Voyage to the Coast of Africa, on whom I have Shipt per Inclos'd Bill of Lading & Weigh Note Two Hundred Barrels of Flour to your Address which I had some struggle to do, out of Justice to you, small as the Matter is, the Vessel being engagd with a View to one House only.

In Order to enhance the Proceeds on your side the Water I have agreed to pay the Freight on this, upon your Bill signifying the safe delivery of the Goods.

My View is to recover my Stock of Wine, which a desire of serving some of my Military friends, whose roving Profession would not suffer them to lay in any regular Provision, has reduc'd lower than ever I remember it. The older it is the better, admitting the Quality equally good, but at all Events some old, as to the rest I must submit to the times, & your friendly Aid. The Straw Colour we most esteem, of a good body, without a sweetish Taste. You will be pleas'd to attend to the Freight back, Capt: Ashfield who follows in a few days, I should like, if he is equally reasonable with others, being a stout double deckd Vessel. Freights you'll observe are vastly fallen since the Peace. As the Flour was sent on board in a hurry without any immediate inspection by a Person acting under me, if any impositions should appear, either with respect to Weight or Quality, pray furnish me with proper Evidence to make the Charge good.

If a Vessel was bound from Philadelphia to the Madeira I have desird a Hundred or two Barrels of Flour

to be sent from thence for me, here it is not to be had without an Advanc'd Price & scarcely then. I am

Some Folks who have Shipt Wines from your Island, have swerv'd so much from the Tenor of our Act, that the Legislature have order'd every Pipe to be gauged by the Gunter Measure & laid twenty Shillings, I think, Penalty on every Gallon short of 120.

Per Capt. Campbell ¹¹¹

New York 14th January 1764

MR: TELEMEN CRUGER

SIR

I hope the old Pompey, ¹¹² grown new, will have paid you a Visit long before this reaches you. Her old Bones have lasted longer than her good old Masters, poor Goodwins, ¹¹³ by which we loose a faithful & an able superintendant. Mr: Brymer of Quebec is at a Loss to know what is become of his Partner Mr: Daniel Bayne, who was at Curacao last Spring or Summer & he beleives intended for Jamaica. Pray make some enquiry how he proceeded & let me know it as soon as you conveniently can. Mr: Brymer would willingly be releas'd from his doubts & Anxiety. And if it's worth while do enquire of Depeyster & Duyckinck what is become of the Debts left behind on my Account by Charles Moore, Contracted both by his brother William & himself, their Receipt is for ps: 225.2.5 they have remitted ps: 56 Receivd from a *Domingo* so much indebted, Charles said they were all very good, but the Reverse I think has appeard, I need not send you the particulars as they have 'em. This Curacao is an infernal place for bad Debts, for Gods sake dont

¹¹¹ John Campbell, captain of the brig *Gambia*, for Madeira. *N. Y. Mercury*, Jan. 16, 1764.

¹¹² The brig *Pompey*, Captain James Harvey, cleared from N. Y. for Curaçao, in Nov., 1763. *N. Y. Gazette* (Weyman's), Nov. 28, 1763.

¹¹³ Richard Goodwin. His will was proved in N. Y., Jan. 30, 1764. *N. Y. H. S. Coll. 1897, Abstracts of Wills*, VI, 295.

you encrease them by trusting the Dogs too much. Ask Isaac Gouverneur with my Compliments since they will give us nothing else on the old Score (& an iniquitous Score it is) whether he cant Compound for Limes & Cacanuts as long as a Body lives, by way of Acknowledgment, as Landlords grant Leases. I am with wishes for your Success

Per Captains Sarly & Youngs ¹¹⁴

New York 21st January 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

Tho' I had no Letter from you by the Packet or by any other Conveyance since I wrote you by Major Abercromby, or by Jack, who I hope is safe with you, yet I have had the pleasure to hear from your family on this side the Water, that all was well at Home, particularly I was refreshd with a Message from my former chearfull Acquaintance your Sister Beckie, Miss I beleive I should fashionably have said, which be so kind as to return four fold for me in the honest Sentiment of New York, disguisd with the Drapery of St: James' if that pleases the Ladys best, for as we grow old, we must look abroad for fictitious Charms for the Sex, when the Stamina Fail.

You must know I begin to think you a bad Tare & Tret Man or you must have rememberd to have given me some information of my Commission concerning Governor Murrays requisites, how far it has been executed, what the things that were Provided cost &ca: for I have not been able to say one word to him about it, in settling Accounts or any other way, which I should like to have done, so pray be so good as to furnish me at least with the Cost, the remainder we will abate.

By Mr: Neilson's Directions I inclose you a £200 Sterl-

¹¹⁴ John Sarly, of the brig *Jacob*, and David Youngs, captain of the brig *Bumper*, both of which cleared from the N. Y. Custom House for Curaçao, W. I. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Jan. 12, 19, 1764.

ing Bill on his Account drawn by Capt: John Mitchell Pay Master of the 45th Regiment on John Pournies at Thirty days Sight, dated at Louisbourg 8th December last, which ends my Paper and all my Business, but to subscribe myself

Per the Harriot packet

New York 21st January 1763

COLL: BARRÉ

DEAR SIR

Your recommendation of worthy Doctor Clossy I shall not cease to remember, his absence of mind & pure simplicity of manner together require a little worldly Assistance sure enough, the Christian Virtue of Patience I told you too must likewise stand his friend, in the way the Practice of Physick is carryd on here. I have sent the Letter forward to Albany to the wretched Mrs: Ross, who without a Lucid Interval, if her Distress is not exaggerated, will be utterly unable to judge of the Contents of it. An Officer passing through Albany told me he calld to see her, but was informd by the family, it would be in vain for she knew no body. Perhaps her Situation may not be quite so miserable, or perhaps if it really was, it may alter for the better, but surely such an inconsistent Prank was never playd by Man before. When I know what is done in Consequence of the Letter, you shall not fail to be duely informd of it. The Money must be well-come, whatever the Tydings may be. The fire of our Indian Hostilitys seems to be pretty well gone off & a Peace in View, but how either to punish or to forgive what is past, is the Question, to pursue the War feebly would prove injurious in every shape & tamely to submit to such Insults is shocking. The Colonys appear tyred of Bloodshed & Expence however small may have been their proportion of either. They come reluctantly into any vigorous resolutions & the farther from the Evil,

the less of course they feel it, or are alarmd. New England declines all Assistance it's said. This Colony would chearfully contribute it's general Quota, but shrinks at a double or a trible Dose, Jersy & Philadelphia backward, the Regulars wore to the Stumps. Judge now how fit we are to carry on an Indian War if the Enemy were determind & united, but neither we flatter ourselves will be the Case. The great Complaint of the Colonys, is the Oppression of the Sugar Act, which they imagin, was obtaind & is continu'd purely by the superior Interest of the West India Planters. It certainly cramps Navigation & Shipping, which helps to keep a Community alive, Stops up I beleive many of the Outlets to the Brittish Manufactorys, & not a little disables the Colonys from paying for those they import, which must fall ultimately upon the Mother Country, & will have disagreeable effects both on one & tother. The whole Object now is to tye up the Colonys to an extreme, in order to cure another extreme they were falling into, but this wont do, if they have little or no Commerce to vent their productions, they can pay for no Manufactures, & must set to work themselves. I hear more upon this Subject often than I understand, I mean some refine too much upon it, but certainly it deserves a serious Consideration.

We long to hear how the Parliament opens, which a Packet daily expected, it's hopd will bring us, the Prospect is unpromising, but who knows but we may be agreeably disappointed. I am with great truth

N. B. Inclos'd a Letter for Coll. Amherst to him, informing the Colonel of what had been done in respect to Bertrams¹¹⁵ Collections engag'd by J. Allen & sent by Budden. Also what lay ready for him here to go with Aberdeen.

Per the Harriot packet

¹¹⁵ John Bartram, the botanist.

New York 21st January 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

Your favour of 10th Nov: has at last given me the satisfaction of hearing from you by the Harriot Packet, the Hallifax that was to follow 26th is not arrivd, tho the Weather is the finest in the world, perfect Spring. We wish the expected Packet in more particularly to know what Complexion this animated Cession of Parliament is to wear, Political Painters differ so much in their representations, that nothing but the Life will do.

Mr: A: friends report that his Mandamus was on board the Shipwreckd Packet, he talks himself of settling in England soon, & says it is not worth while to qualify. Mr: Chambers I believe must soon make another Vacancy, these old Dons seem to be but a dead Weight at best, they may serve in that sense as Drags to a Kite to keep it steady & from flying too high.

The five Members of Council, meant I am sure, no prejudice to his Majestys Interest but the old Gentleman affects much to appear very profound at Home, grant him that Indulgence, & one other, of *granting Lands* & you have the Man. The Case from the Beginning as I understand it is simply this: Eternal Quarrels subsisted between the Borderers in which several Lives were lost, Commissioners were appointed by the several Governments to settle a Line of Jurisdiction or Peace to prevent the Effusion of more Blood, I was one of them myself, but we could agree upon nothing, their demands were so high; We argud for Connecticut River they for the South Sea, think how we were to meet. Afterwards when the Quotas of the Colonys were settled in a Grand Congress at Albany, the thing was then more solemnly treated than ever, tho to as little purpose, they would not allow us the Twenty Miles, so far from suffering us to extend to Connecticut River, the Board of Trade then took it

in hand & recommended it to the King in Council for the present Quiet & Good Government of the respective Colonys to settle the Line of Jurisdiction Twenty Miles from Hudsons River, there it has rested ever since & there the Council took it up to preserve Peace & good Order, not to determine property, if this be wrong, they are wrong, & the old Casuist right. I must observe before I leave this tedious Tale, that from whatever we could collect of their Sentiments at Home, tho they meant to give us the Extent of Twenty Miles the Words did not comprehend it, supposing the River to run due North & South they directed a due East Line perpendicular to the River, but its course is North inclining to the East, by which a due east Line does not intersect it at right angles & reduces the distance to something better than Eighteen Miles. So much for Boundarys & Rivers. I told you that I had receivd your Salary from 1st to 25th June £136.19.7 & from thence to 1st Sept: a Moity £181.10.2½. Nothing else yet. The Custom House Folks have promis'd to settle & pay me your part of the Seizure soon. The Gardiner at Greenwich has had £25, half a Years Salary. Deale thinks he is an idle Dog. You seemd to be doubtfull when you left us about my remitting such Sums of Money as came into my hands, if I am to do it regularly, it shall not by any means be neglected. When the Cumberland Packet saild I was out of Town or you should not have been loaded with the Postage of a Bundle of insignificant Papers. A Capt: Grant of 77th has them this Trip. The N. E. Governments seem to sneer at Gen. G.'s requisition & grant no Men, but his Majesty's is since gone, what they will do with that, is not known, they confess the Cup to be bitter (meaning the Indian War) but add, they were for a long time obligd to drink of it unassisted & alone, a Peace at last will I beleive be the thing & the terrible Insults & Injurys we have receivd be quietly pocketed. I allways am
Per the Harriot packet

Jan. 31. Wrote to him by Aberdeen, sent the papers,

mention'd Mr. Morris's ¹¹⁶ Death & Gen. Gages desire of having Greenwich

New York 21st January 1764

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

My last were of 15th Nov: by the Weasel Sloop of War & 23d by Davis & Jacobson. By the preceeding Packet when I was absent from the City your favour of 6th October arrivd, & by this I receivd a Copy of another of 20th October with an Original of 11th November.

Our Indian Disturbances seem lulld for the present, in what Shape they will appear again in the Spring no body knows, the Colonys are very averse to begin a destructive War again & without a vigorous Exertion the tamest Peace has better be submitted to. I did not design Mr: Porter should be pressd to his disadvantage as he suffers already sufficiently by his intermediate Engagment for the Bills, I beleive him to be an honest Man & therefore I mean chiefly to have the thing well fixd. I am extremely obligd to you for your very friendly intimation concerning our Principals at Home.

What Sir George means by it I dont know, to us he is certainly accountable during the present Engagment, which thank God is drawing to an End, and a vexatious Engagment has it been to us, greatly owing to the loose unmeaning way in which it is drawn. It behoves whoever embarks in such Contracts to see thoroughly through them, otherwise they lye at the Mercy of every designing mischievous or wrong headed Man. I forgot to ask you whether you had done with Hyam Levy, his Circumstances I am not well acquainted with, nor would I injure his Credit, but I much suspect from appearances it wont do. I am allways

Per the Harriot packet

¹¹⁶ The Hon. Robert Hunter Morris, Chief Justice and a member of the Council of New Jersey, died on Jan. 27, 1764. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Feb. 2, 1764.

New York 24th January 1764

MESSRS: PAUL & JAMES BENSON

Cork

GENTLEMAN

Opportunitys at length offering for Ireland, as Mr: Delancey & myself are connected in no other Business but what relates to the Contract for North America, I shall do myself the pleasure singly to acknowledge the Receipt of your favours of July 16th & Sept: 21st.

I had formerly some intercourse with Mr: Piercy of Cork in the Commercial way, but we never could make Lumber answer the Freight, which was all we wanted, possibly Circumstances may be alterd & either myself or some of my friends may be led into some future Essays, if we should you may be assurd we shall make our Addresses to your House & in the mean time do it all the good Offices that lay in our power. If a Vessel should be leaving Cork in March or the beginning of April you may Ship me a hundred or a hundred & fifty Barrels Pork containing about 200 lb. Each, providing the Price be tolerably reasonable, the Quality must be merchantable, but need not excell, if it enhances the Price, as I design it for Sale, as an Experiment. Add if you please a half a Dozen half Barrels of Bullocks Tongues for my own use & half a Dozen pieces of Shirting Linnen for my little folks from 18 d: to 2/9 or 3/ the Yard. Whatever be the Amount of this small Adventure draw upon Mr: Moses Franks (of the Contract) for it & I will order your Bills to be honourd. I am Gentlemen

Per Capt. [blank] & Capt. Chambers

New York 28th January 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

The Harriot Packet carryd my last of 21st Inst: It was hardly gone when your favour of 19th October came to hand by Capt: Graham.¹¹⁷

With regard to my Intentions of Serving my Kinsman, I told you I was quite an improper Judge of the Mode & therefore left it entirely to you & his Brother. I meant to serve him & I expected to have justice done me, not to pay 40 per Ct: more than another would do. The Mode & Conditions I still submit to you & his Brother as I did before. The Right Honourables Obligation will give you no farther Concern, unless you choose it, it is grafted into my Stock, the fruit I hope will prove good, if you incline to have it brought back into your own inclosure, it is at your Service. I thank you for the friendship you have done & intend Mr: Nicoll. As I never had any Opinion of his Pursuit if he succeeds it will be an agreeable Disappointment. We must wait to see the Issue of Mr: Lownds Determination, he may do a good naturd deed if he pleases, but he may refuse it too & offer what the Cautious would call tolerable good reasons in support of it. If he is old & formal it makes against us, old Age is naturally shy & jealous. I am glad upon General Monckton's Account Stewarts Bill if paid, for my part I was very safe.

Stocks this Peace have provd so heterogeneous that a body does not know what to say or think about them, what sympathetick feeling is there between them & a dead King of Poland, a Living King I could conceive might move, & overset them in the Bargain. Pork being scarce & dear here I have desird Messrs: Bensons if it be reasonable in Ireland to send me a Hundred or a Hundred & fifty Barrels with some other Triffles, if they could be Shipt in March or the beginning of April, &

¹¹⁷ John Graham, captain of the snow *John and William*, entered in at the N. Y. Custom House from London. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Jan. 26, 1764.

draw upon you for the Value, the Amount you can easily guess at, the small things wont come to Twenty Pounds.

If you can send me a Rheam or Two of good Letter Paper folded in half Sheets pray do, the Whorebird supplyd you with the last so greasie, it wont take Ink, this is some of the best of it. The Stocking Man is an excellent fellow, I would take him by the fist if I was near him.

My Compliments to all the family and beleive me, Sir

Suppose the Treasury favourable, does Sir George go along with you, or has he done with American Contracts. Under such a one as the last, a General may tear you all to pieces. I have deliverd into Mr: Aberdeens Care, General Amherst Steward, a Box of American Products, from Lord Stirling, directed for you. he sails in one of the Transports & carrys this Letter.

Per Mr. Aberdeen, Copy per the Hallifax packet

Feb: 11th. No Letter to acknowledge since the for-
mention'd of 19th Oct. Per the Hallifax

New York 31st January 1764

MR: DANIEL MOORE

SIR

I did myself the pleasure to write you 22d August last. What regards the Pompey destind from Curacoa to your Address we have wrote you in Company, poor Goodwin who dyd since she saild importund me out of a half of my Moity, which has divided the Interest more than ever I intended, however his Death may probably unite it again. You will please to give her all the Dispatch you can, long waiting is very expensive besides the Injurys that attend the Vessel. We mean however to have as much of our Interest brought Home in her as the present Cargo & our former Effects will afford, both Freight & time being savd thereby.

We observe the Error in the 3d Sales by the Pompey I

mean carrying the Gross instead of the Proceeds to our Credit, but if we dont mistake there is an omission in our Account of £61.10.7 paid by Capt: Goodwin to you in October 1761 or thereabouts which I debited the December following. His Death deprives me of a present Explanation, but no doubt a reference to your own Books or Minutes will do it. An account of the Situation of the Debts left by our friend J. H. Cruger will among other of your favours much oblige

Per Capt. Jauncey

New York 31st January 1764

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

My last was 2d Dec: which Mr: Franks tells me went in a Vessel's Bag that slipt away unexpectedly without the Gold.

This is designd by Capt: White thro' the same Channel (Philadelphia) who will have the Gold, for which please to give my Account Credit. I have Letters from Mr: Monckton of 10th Nov:, he was in high health, but had determind upon nothing, the approaching Critical Sessions of Parliament having so much engag'd Peoples Attention, that no Business was done, especially at the Boards, which were tottering between one party & the tother & whose very Existence depended upon the side they were engag'd in. If a Coalition is not brought about it will probably prove the most inflam'd Sessions, we have seen for this many Years. What a pitty the publick Good should be entirely absorbd in such unfair Contentions. Indian Affairs quite lull'd for the present, in what Shape they will open with the Spring is uncertain. I am with great truth

If you could send me half a Dozen pounds of Snuff call'd Macaba, for General Gage, it woud oblige me.

Per Capt: White

New York 1st February 1764

COLL: BEN: HARRISON

SIR

I have your favour to acknowledge of 1st Dec: last with a Sett of Bills of Exchange on Messrs: Sedgeley Hilhouse & Randolph of Bristoll, for Sixty Pounds Sterling dated 17th Dec: for the last Years Interest due on your Bond of the same date. I hope Coll: Byrd is perfectly recoverd. I answerd his Letter by a Skipper who passd his Door & promis'd to deliver it safe. His friends were very sorry to hear of his severe Illness. My Compliments to him & his family. I hope you have enjoyd your Health since we had the pleasure of seeing you. Mr: Read no doubt informd you of our Settling the former Years Interest of your Bond. I am
to the Care of Thos. Willing of Philadelphia

New York 2d February 1764

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

Not having heard from you since my Letter of 30th July last, I have nothing to inform you of, but that I find the poor Wretch, Arthur Edmond who was Hostage for the Little Molly lyes still a close Prisoner at Bayonne, as you'll see by the inclos'd Paper. 'tis a cruel Treatment to suffer an innocent Person to languish thus in Prison, who has committed no offence, but in becoming Security for the Benefit of others, without any possible Advantage to himself. What can be the meaning. Captain Baily ¹¹⁸ has acted in this cruel, negligent manner, but besides the Cruelty there is extreme imprudence in it, for the Expences will run monstrously high, and the Law I appre-

¹¹⁸ See an advertisement in Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, May 2, 1765, defending Capt. Richard Baillie, of the 35th Regt. of Foot, against a reflection cast upon him in an advertisement in the *London Gazetteer, or New Daily Advertiser*, inserted by Elizabeth Edmonds, in an effort to secure the release from the prison at Bayonne of her husband, Arthur Edmonds.

hend will give him a remedy against every Body concern'd in the Ransom, for such worse than savage Treatment.

Pray think if you cant by some Application or other restore the poor Wretch to his Liberty. It will be doing a benevolent Action & possibly may be the saving of a Life, that otherwise may end in a Sacrifice to Neglect & Inhumanity for the Interest of others. I own I feel most tenderly for the unhappy Man, & shall take every Step in my power for his relief, tho' I have no concern in it other than what a natural Sympathy must excite in every Breast not void of humanity. Whatever is or shall be your proportion of this crying Expence you will be so good as to inform me of, tho' I apprehend the Insurors will object to this unparallel'd Neglect. I am

Per Capt. White Via Philadelphia

New York 2d February 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

Common Compassion obliges me to recommend to your Notice the Case of a poor Wretch, One Arthur Edmonds, which you will see Advertisd in Weyman's Paper of 23d Ult: The Vessel was call'd the Little Molly Richard All-boy Master, she came consign'd to me from Barbados when General Amherst advis'd an Embargo, in order to supply Martinique with Provisions, when your Stock run so low. She took a Freight of Crowns Provisions for that Island, but was taken on her Passage & Ransom'd, this poor Creature Edmonds given as a Security for the Payment, without having a Shilling Interest depending. When the Vessel arriv'd at Martinique, the Proportions of Ransom were settl'd, Captain Baily, Secretary, undertook as I am told the Redemption of the Hostage, & the Owner Mr: Joseph Maynard of Barbados pursuant to the report of Shea, Smith & Campbell, appointed to fix

the proportion, did pay his Quarter part to Capt: Bailly, the Crown was to make good the other three Quarters & to redeem the Hostage, but the unhappy Deriliet has been sufferd it seems at the risque of his Life, to remain in Exile & in Prison, ever since, at Bayonne, as appears by his Advertisement above mentiond. If any thing could be done to set the poor Wretch at Liberty, it would be a real Act of Commiseration and Benevolence, & as such I have taken the Liberty to recommend it to your Consideration & remain allways

Per Aberdeen

New York 5th February 1764

MESSRS: SCOTT PRINGLE CHEAP & Co:

GENTLEMEN

The 13th Ult: I wrote you by Capt: Campbell whose second Bill of Lading is inclosd. I may referr you to what I then said, as My Effects & Letter have so close a connection, that the latter will be worth very little without the former. I have only to desire that as this Vessel commanded by Capt: Elder, belongs to my friends Crugers & Marston, you will give her the Preference of my freight back, she taking it as low as any other will. It has fallen I find to 40/ a Pipe allready, higher it cannot be, lower it may, as every thing is tumbling down, even the Traders themselves. I am

I have your favours of 8th June, 30th July & 7th Nov: to acknowledge, tho' not to answer.

Per Capt. Elder ¹¹⁹

New York 14th February 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

I had just prepar'd the foregoing for the Mail when your favour of 9th Dec: made it's Appearance & for

¹¹⁹ Robert Elder, captain of the sloop *Pitt*, which cleared from the N. Y. Custom House for Madeira. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Feb. 9, 1764; *N. Y. Mercury*, Feb. 6, 1764.

which receive my thanks. I was glad to hear of Capt: Taylors Arrival, as I ran a considerable risque uninsured which must help out the depress'd Price of Silver & Gold. I suspected the Success of Mr: Antill's Application, where the inexplicable Law is to puzzle a Suit, Any Empirick can throw more difficultys in the way, than Solomon & all the wise Men of the East put together can remove. I am however extremely obligd to Mr: Lowndes for his Civility & good inclinations, & beg you will do me the favour to let him know it, with my Compliments. You will let me know when Stocks are thought to be well up, if the Nation by its Phrensie dont get first down, that we may consider what to do with my little Modicum which produces too slender an Annual Crop. I am

If Mr: Allen should order any Money for Messrs: Cru-gers use & mine pray pay it, a Moity Each to be charg'd with.

Per the Hallifax packet

New York 14th February 1764

WILLIAM ALLEN ESQ:

SIR

As no body is more thoroughly informd of the Oppressions his Majestys Subjects underwent in their Traffick to the Havanna nor more ready we are persuaded to afford his Assistance in obtaining all legal redress, we have taken the Liberty to recommend to your Direction a Case to which we imagine you are not an entire Stranger, & in which with many other fair Adventurers we have sufferd an injurious Treatment, that has no Alleviation unless like Death it is common to all. The State of the Case with the Testimonys annex'd speaks pretty plainly for itself, however a few explanatory Observations may not be amiss, with respect to the Cargo of Sugar we happend to be concern'd in with Mr: Kennion, which tho' it has no immediate relation to the Merits of the Case, he may insinuate as a Merit of his own as he

once did before, which drew from us the latter of the two Letters inclosd, the one dated 10th January, the other the 27th following, where we think we have made tolerable reprisals, & therefore have nothing farther to offer on that Head, as the Letter remains unanswer'd. The Truth is if our information be right, Money was call'd for so fast upon their engrossing all the Flour, & people were so out of humour at suffering such an imposition in Price, besides waiting till their Patience was exhausted for Payment (Lawrence says he call'd above a Score times) that these new Legislators were forc'd to substitute Merchandize, & some times tho much against the Grain, even Bills, in lieu of Money & this Accounts for their selling Flour rather under the Market, at fourteen Dollars a Barrel, when the Captains depose they were offer'd Sixteen, being press'd for large Sums they were willing to encourage a Sale, or shall we take the good Naturd Side & impute it to a Spirit of Moderation, not to demand above the double of one Man for the very thing they had extorted from another. We owe Mr: Kennion you'll observe by our Letter of 10th Jan: £177.3.7½ Ballance on the Sugar Adventure, but then there are the Dutys & the Oppression unsettled, which we could wish were brought to as clear a Ballance, & tho he did not appear satisfy'd with the Sale, had we suspended it longer, as he advis'd, it would have prov'd much worse, the Price having been lower ever since, so zealous were we in promoting the general Interest, that several Parcells we bought meerly to advance the Sale, never would command the same Money again & a great part of it lyes still a Burthen upon hand. We are thus particular to obviate any insinuations that may chance to be offer'd to our Prejudice, which is too often the Case, when Men do not only differ in opinion, but what is much stronger, differ about property too. We are very apprehensive that your residence in England will not admit of an End to this Application, if it be litigated, as it must be determin'd with a variety of others upon the same Principles, treading on the Heels of it, but we are so sensible of your friendship that we would

choose to submit it entirely to your Direction, to begin, discontinue, Depute, accommodate, or in short do any thing else you would do, was the Affair your own. We are not at all afraid of Expence nor would we unadvisedly run into it & expose our weakness, the latter however we flatter ourselves can never be the Case. Much may depend upon timing the Matter well, if we are too precipitate & stand alone Our Adversary may gain Confidence & the opposition be the greater, accumulated Applications by establishing a Notoriety of glaring facts may & probably will lessen the Opposition greatly. Enough of these Applications are ripening if enough are not allready Mature & fit for Determination.

If Money should be wanted you will be pleasd to give an Order on Mr: Moses Franks as it becomes Necessary. We can recollect nothing else but to repeat our entire Confidence in the Measures you shall think most wise & expedient to pursue, & trusting to your experienced friendship for a pardon for all this trouble we beg leave to subscribe ourselves with great truth & respect

Henry & John Cruger
John Watts

Per the Hallifax packet

New York 18th February 1764

PHILIP GIBBS ESQ: [of Barbados]

SIR

As no Conveyance offers from hence I must send this to Philadelphia to make its way to you from thence, to let you know Captain Hopkins is arrivd & has just landed the Rum. The nominal Price is from 3/6 to 3/9. The latter I would take for a part, or the whole, but have met with no Chap inclinable yet to give it. I shall endeavour to execute your Charge with the greatest pleasure with respect to the Horses but you may be assurd you could not have assignd me a Task that is likely to end so little

to your Satisfaction & mine, Matchd Horses particularly of any Size Shape Gates or Appearance, are surprizingly sought after & command allmost any Price. The Inhabitants of this Place have lately run much into the use of Chariots & other double Carriages, but it would surprize you to see how ill they are provided with Cavalry & how dear they pay for them. After this representation you will be some Judge of the difficult Task I have before me, however you may depend upon it Sir I will take every probable Step to provide the best that are to be found & must leave you to judge how far I have succeeded.

I hope you have preservd your health since you visited North America. This Commission requird no Apology, it will give me great pleasure if I am but so lucky as to execute it to your wish, being very truly

Via Philadelphia per Capt. White

New York 18th February 1764

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

Your favour of 11th January I receivd a few days ago & yesterday a preceeding one of 29th December. This is designd to catch Capt: White still at Philadelphia by whom I have allready wrote under date of 31st Ult: to which I beg to be referr'd. I can sincerely sympathize with you in the alternate pains & pleasures you have felt as a parent for a gallant worthy Son, his Danger was great, but Providence has thought fit to deliver him from it & to make him her Care, which seems to be a benign Omen of his future Life, God grant it may be so for both your Sakes.

General Monckton's great friends are in such a complicated Situation one side & tother, that I beleive it puzzles him how to observe an Equilibrium between the Ministry & them together, for both sides are so keen, that the least wry Word or even look, sends a Man graz-

ing directly. Coll: Barré offer'd only to speak in Parliament against making Stoppages out of the brave Soldiers Pay (who had conquer'd America) for their Provisions, & he was stript in an Instant of Adjutant General of England & Governor of Stirling Castle. His friend indeed Lord Shelburn was turn'd restive & gone out of Office.

I will get you the Horses if Money & the strictest Search will do, but you cannot conceive how ill People are provided here, who stick at nothing. A small pair Mr: Monckton had, sold at Eighty Pounds, a larger & not very excellent neither, at a Hundred, People seem to be fore'd down now a little by the Prospect that is before them, but the Changes & inconstancys of the War had allmost turn'd their Heads. Not long since such an importation of Coaches Charriots &cā: appeard in the City, as surprizd every Body, but those it ought to surprize, the Proprietors. I allways am with perfect truth

Via Philadelphia per Capt. White

New York 1st March 1764

MR. HENRY SLEGHT
ESOPUS

My former Experience of your Candour and Justice in serving a friend induces me to apply to you to assist me in procuring Eight likely well made Draft Horses, as near as possible to the Description sent me which is inclosd & by which you will perceive Mr: Gibbs of Barbados for whose use they are designd understands Horses & would choose to be well Supplyd. I beleive I shall be obligd to Ship them from New England & therefore would have them remain well kept with the People of whom they are bought till I can give directions, which will not be long after they are engagd. If the four can be got to match the other four will be come at I should think easily enough, tho the more you'll observe match the better. Dont by any means meddle with ordinary ill made Horses

as I am confident they cannot please & are attended with the same Expence of Transportation & other Charges as good ones. I must leave it entirely to you to take such Measures to obtain the properest & best as you judge right, without minding a little Expence if it be necessary. I am told there are Two or Three pair at Rhinebeck in the hands of Mr. Rutsen & Mr. Vosberg, but how cleaver I dont know. Very large Horses dont seem to me to be the kind that will please best, about fourteen hands & a half or three Inches English Measure, well Sett will be the Size, fifteen hands at most. About Six the best Age. The Money shall be paid to your Order. I am

New York 11th March 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

My last were by Aberdeen the Generals Steward, he had the Papers &ca:, & so had Mr: Gibson Mr: Allens relation who follow'd in the Hallifax Packet. Lieut. Hagarth of 77th I propose to entrust them to in this Packet, tho I cant say the trust is very great, considering the Matter they are composd of. Mr: Colden has paid me £225 the half of a Quarters Salary from 1st Sept: to 1st Dec: I dont remember either to have receivd or paid any thing else on your Accompt, the Custom House has not yet paid me your proportion of the Seizure, nor the old Man for the Charriot, he seems to be rather long winded, shall I give him a Jog, the other Gentry I shant hesitate about at all. Banyar says when he settles the Account of the Perquisites he will pay me your Moity. The Wine & Silver Urn are safe hitherto from all Accidents. Greenwyck stands still empty as it did. People wish you would fill it again. I observ'd before to you that G: Gage would like to have it till either you arrivd or relinquishd it. The Merchants send you a Copy of their Memorial on Trade tho' I beleive it will come a day after

the fair, from what Mr: Allen writes me, tis long & I think rather labourd, but has a tolerable Share of Matter in it, that might have been or possibly may yet be of use, a Copy goes recommended by his Honour & the Council to the Board of Trade.

A long Paragraph relating to our refusing the Philadelphia Indians a Passage thro this Province

Inclosd a Copy of Sir William Johnsons & Mr: Hogans Letters relating to the Hostilitys renew'd at Pittsburg, one Man of 12 killd. Quakers Answer to the Paxtoners false, & evasive. Peters like to die. Mr: Chambers not like to outlive the Month. Robertson & Mallet return'd, a bad Country. Receivd no Letter since 10th Nov:.. Mentiond the Keg of unknown Stuff, Barré's fall, Wilks never to end & the Publick Good thought of, Elliot Collector, Read impatient, Morris by Will left his Son & Daughter 8 or 10 M^l: a piece.

Per the Cumberland packet. N. B. Wrote to Mr. Allen pretty much to the same purpose.

New York 24th March 1764

MR: JOHN RIDDELL
Norfolk, Virginia
SIR

I have your favour to acknowledge of 10th Instant & in consequence of it have Metamorphosd some of my Spanish Powder Sugar into single refine, very excellent Mr: Cortland says of whom I have it, but this Vessel could only take Eight Tierces of it per Bill of Lading inclosd consisting of 218 Loaves Wt: 2056. The remittance I must leave to yourself, something may chance to offer that I cannot foresee, Provisions with you are very high indeed, not so here. Wheat 4/6 per Bushel, rather under, Indian Corn 2/9, Flour 13/ Bread something more, Oates 20 d: Salt Pork bears the best Price, £5 per Barrel, Fresh Beef at Market by the single Quarter 4½ per lb. When

this Currency at the foregoing Prices is brought into yours, the Terms in general I imagine are much preferable, even at first Cost, so that any Transportation hither must be a dead Loss. If 250 Bushells of Indian Corn for the Old Wench squares Accounts it stands in near 4/ this Currancy & the Quality worse too than the Produce of this Country, which makes a great difference if there can be a great difference in such an insignificant Transaction. By the next Conveyance I may probably send you some more of the converted Matter. Harry White is Agent to the Navy Contract, but as he was not to return from England till late this Spring he Substituted Mr: Stuyvesant to act for him in his Absence. I thank you for your good Intentions to my female recommendations & sincerely hope with you a just Peace may not be far off with our Savage Neighbours, who I must own I think the Colonys have exerted themselves very little to merrit it, And if it is effected at all, it must be principally owing to the sound Policy of setting them by the Ears together, & putting a Canadian Battalion upon their Backs, almost as great Savages as themselves. New Wines sell for about forty Pounds the Pipe of 120 Gallons. I am

Per Capt. Philips ¹²⁰

New York 5th April 1764

PHILIP GIBBS ESQ:

SIR

With this you will receive a Copy of my last of the 18th Feb: I have since got thro' the Sales of your Rum per Account inclosd producing £225.7.8. As the New growth was daily expected I thought it most adviseable to get rid of it in time, tho' on some Credit, by which means none of the Money is yet receivd, but I beleive is very secure. The Proof would not do for this Market, I was therefore obligd to raise it to a proper Standard by Spir-

¹²⁰ Capt. Thomas Philips, of the schooner *Nancy*, from and to Virginia. *N. Y. Mercury*, March 26, 1764.

its, which costs you a Trifle in the difference of Price. The Man I employd at Esopus on this Side of Albany, where the best Horses for Draught are bred, writes me that he had procurd five Blacks with a Star, & One Bay at £24 & £25, & expected soon to get Two others to compleat my Number, but the difficulty will be how to transport them, the fellow who brought your Rum undertook to do it, but like a true New England Man, never thought of it when his back was turn'd. I have wrote to New London and New Haven & am not without hopes of succeeding at one or tother, from hence Conveyances rarely offer & besides both the people of this Place & Philadelphia are but awkward at this kind of Work. I am very truly

Via Philadelphia Per Capt. Greenway

New York 5th April 1764

CAPT: CHRISTOPHER KILBY

New Haven

SIR

I am obligd to you for your punctuality & Care in procuring a Passage for the Horses. The Terms are high particularly the Allowance for Provisions, which with us would not be above one third part of the Money, the Shipper only finding the Grain, however I must be content if the Owner will not take less, & am still equally obligd to you. The best way I can think of is upon the receipt of this Letter that you fix the Matter with the Master or Owner & immediatly dispatch a Person to Esopus for the Horses, who will return probably by the time all is prepard to receive them, Six I know were bought & two more to be bought in a day or Two after I heard from thence. These Eight I think we may depend on & if an Opportunity offers for Esopus, I will order two more but this is uncertain. I will even if two proper Ones are to be bought here in time, buy & send them,

but this too is uncertain. Please to take a Bill of Lading for the Eight on Account of Philip Gibbs Esq: describing their Colour, Size & Marks, & inclose it to him. Whatever Expence you are at pray draw on me for & I will repay it with thanks or I will send you the Money if it be more Convenient. Mr. Gibbs desires me to assure the Master that if he brings the Horses in good Order he will not fail to reward him for his Care. I shall write you again by the next Post if any thing occurs in the mean time remain

The Voyage would be undone by Lumber only, tis worth nothing, not the Freight at Barbados.

New York 9th April 1764

CAPT: CHRISTOPHER KILBY

SIR

I hope you have receivd my Letter of Thursday last by the Post, & have in pursuance of it taken Passage & sent for the Horses to Esopus, which I apprehend might all easily be done while the Vessel was preparing to take them on board. I have since wrote to Mr: Sleght at Esopus & desird him if he could buy Two proper Horses more, to make the Number Ten, the first Eight on Account of Philip Gibbs Esq: the other Two on Account of Gedney Clarke Esq:, for which you will be so good as to take a seperate Bill of Lading & inclose it to him, as likewise Mr: Gibbs's to him. As soon as I can be certain the Horses are going if time is allowd me, I will write to them both if not you will be so kind as to transmit them their respective Bills of Lading with my Compliments, & it will much oblige

New York 14th April 1764

JOSIAH HARDY ESQ:

DEAR SIR

As all the Vessels I wrote by got safe I am to take it for granted you of course receivd my different Letters &

particularly the Wine that followd you in the Sloop Byrd. I am since to thank you for your favour from Falmouth of 27th Oct: Your Passage was bad, but it might have been worse, all is well that ends well, the Sea is by no means a stable Element & therefore we make great Allowances for it's inconstancys.

Having finish'd I beleive all your Matters in America you have inclosd a Transcript of the Account, ballanced by my Bill on Sir Will: Baker for £125.8.4 Sterling at 85 per Ct: Exchange amounting £238.0.5 Currancy. You see we seldom know when we go too fast or too slow, had the remittance been sooner made, it would have Cost you 90 per Ct:. How odd things come out, when the Pursuit of the Glasses was quite over, Providence by the Death of the Wicked Wretch who stole 'em, brought the iniquity in a Moment & unexpectedly to light. Inclosd is Mr: Barbaries Letter relative to that Transaction. I hope what he has done will please you. The Money Mr: Kearny paid me you will see is Credited £160 Proc: for Gov: Franklins Note. Your friends often remember you & would be extremely glad to hear that you had succeeded to your wishes. My respects to Mrs: Hardy & the young Ladys. And pray remember me with great sincerity to Sir Charles. To finish an old trifling Affair I before mentiond to you I inclose a Bill on him which he will be pleasd to pay to Mr: Baker, it is for 2 Quarter Casks of Wine replacd Mr: Saul for the like Quantity lent Sir Charles at Hallifax, Mr: Saul gave us the Order, knows all about it, & must explain it if need be. With great truth I remain

What is become of Mr: Barrons. My Compliments to him, if he is in the Land of the Living.

Per the Pitt packet

New York 14th April 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

I have your favours of 21st December & the 8th February to thank you for, when the last was wrote none of mine could well have reachd you, Jan: 21st & 28th & Feb: 14th were the last. Inclosd is the Second of Mitchell's Bills on Poupies for £200 Sterling dated at Louisbourg 8th Dec: remitted by Order & for Account of James Neilson. If you should enter into a Contract it's probable Provisions will bear a moderate Price to carry it on to Advantage if the Terms be good, but remember the Vast Expence of Issuing at small Posts to small Numbers, widely dispersd, deliver them only into their own hands, let them see to the Expenditure, and above all be cautious that your Engagement is well understood, to avoid the Shoals & Quicksands we have so often been aground upon. What is the Matter with Mr: Greenville & Sir George. I find by your fathers Letter there is a shyness & that the latter seems to be the Aggressor. If he is declaring off, it may be a Matter of indifferency, otherwise it is not the most likely way to obtain favours, unless with very contemptible Mortals indeed. I shall soon expect to be thankfull for my Account Currant.

N. B. Then follows as Account of our Indian Affairs, the Troops rais'd by some Colonys, others granting None. The Confusions of Philadelphia. The Letter ends with this, My respects to the family, particularly tell Jack he has my good wishes & that this is the Touchstone of his life. I am

Per Pitt packet

New York 14th April 1764

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

I have answerd all your favours except those of 10th Dec: & 9th Feb: I am very well satisfyd with Mr: Por-

ters Settlement as he has been too great a Sufferer already & has been very ill used, but the Debt bore Interest from the return of the Bills here in April by the Custom of Merchants & his Note likewise expresses it, however as I have said his Case is hard and deserves all reasonable Indulgence.

All Prize Money taken by his Majestys Ships of Warr & not distributed I understand to be due to Greenwich Hospital by Act of Parliament, the former War we paid it for Prizes taken by Sir Peter Warren.

Capt: Campbell ¹²¹ in the Nightingale did this War take a Prize and appoint Mr: Kilby, Mr: Delancey & myself Agents, Sundry of the Crew deserted before they had receivd their Shares by which a Sum remains in our hands of above four hundred Pounds Currancy. This Money I take to be due to Greenwich Hospital & would have remitted it, but Mr: Barons produced a Power from Admiral Saunders to receive all Prize Moneys in America due to Greenwich Hospital. We never doubted Mr: Saunder's Authority & should have paid it with Mr: Kilby's Approbation while here, could the due Execution of the Power have been provd. I am very much obligd to you for your information relative to the Matter & should punctually have followd it by this Conveyance, but have had notice from Goldfrap in behalf of Mr: Kilby, that by the next Packet I shall hear Circumstantially about it & as he was a joint Agent with us, we shall let it rest so long where it was. The New Rochell Missionary would be glad I believe at your leisure to know what Ground he stands upon with respect to his Arrears, his Circumstances are low & a favourable Word would make him happy. I have drawn on you of this date in favour of Josiah Hardy Esq: for £125.8.4 Sterling & on Sir Charles Hardy for £16.8.8 Sterling in your favour for my use, which Bill I inclosd to his Brother for acceptance the Payment to be made you. I am

Per the Pitt packet

¹²¹ James Campbell. *Beatson's Naval and Military Memoirs*, III, 113.

New York 14th April 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I am very much obligd with your favour of 9th Feb: by this Packet, it was pretty long a coming, but it made ample amends when it did come. I thought our Committee of Correspondence would have wrote very copiously to the Agent by this Conveyance, but as the Assembly meets on Tuesday they choose to have their Opinion & Weight go along with it, & therefore have only wrote in general Terms. The forbidding Paper Money to be a Legal Tender would in my Opinion take away what little Energy it has, & subject every Debtor with a real Estate, to the Mercy of his Creditor not having a Legal Tender to unburthen himself, the Creditor must Command his Estate upon his own Terms. To suppose we can keep either Silver or Gold in the Colonys while our Mother Country will trust us both for Necessarys & for Luxurys is entirely Ideal, & destroying the Intercourse between the Mother & her Offspring, may be very injurious to both. That it has had no ill Effect in N: England, I mean destroying the Tender of Paper Money, cannot be allow'd. Mr: Johnson ¹²² of Connecticut one of the first Men there says he has known it taken in Execution & Sold at Outcry to the great Grievance of the Debtor, who had Money that would neither save his Person from a Goal nor his Property from his Creditor. Limiting a certain Sum may do if the Government at Home never again intends to call upon the Colonys for Assistance, for it would be an excellent Pretence for doing nothing & evidently cuts off all resources, Paper Money being the only means of an immediate Exertion. But why would they punish the Colonys indiscriminately, parents seldom do so, good ones at least, with their Children. We have been faithfull to our Trust, in Sixty Seven all our Emissions will be sunk, except about Forty Thousand Pounds emitted on Loan for the Support of Government continu'd

¹²² William Samuel Johnson.

from Year to Year more at the Instance of the Government itself, than at the request of the People. We sink forty Thousand Pounds a Year which makes the Tax very heavy for a New Country, it falls near four Shillings in the Pound on Houses in the City. Virginia Money has fallen a little, and what then, has not War evil Effects all the World over. See the Stocks & Credit at Home where Thousands of Innocents suffer under faith or having faith in Government, more than a few Pedlars do, trading to Virginia, that makes such a mighty disturbance, as to shake all the Northern Colonys; the Loss on Virginia Paper was honestly acquird, by the Governments exerting itself in the common cause, had it lookd on tamely as Maryland did, like an unnatural Offspring, it had not been blamd, perhaps Commended. Maryland is happy because she has been disobedient & neglected her Duty. When the Assembly meets they will be more explicit & either the Committee or myself will send you a Copy of their Letter to the Agent. They are calld together upon Account of the Troops they have in Pay. The Provision for the three Hundred on the Western Frontier paid & fed by the Colony expires 1st May, so does the One Hundred & Seventy continu'd by Advice of Council, the three Hundred exclusive of Officers last raisd for the Service under G: Gage are provided for till November. Connecticut has at last Voted Two Hundred & Fifty Men, Jersy between three and four Hundred, all to the Southward a clear Blank. Philadelphia are still quarelling sadly, you have inclosd the Paper that contains the pith of their Controversy, the Assembly appears to be indisputably in the right.

We are to loose Napier in five or Six Days with Davis, he will furnish you with some more of their Pamphleteering. I am glad they have laid aside the thoughts of repealing the Act for dividing the great Patents, the Alarm came from the Agent himself. I sent you before, the Intelligence of 41 Indians being taken, fourteen of 'em are here kept quietly in Prison upon good hard Meat, better than ever they had. Sir John Sinclair has your

Papers, you will see by them another small party fell in with the Enemy scalp'd one, took three Prisoners, three escaped, Sir William likes this as it's drawing of Blood, tho' not a great deal, he says to me of 29th Ult:; "Yesterday my Son set out with a party of 110 Indians & some White Men to be join'd by as many more of the former, so that I shall be able effectually to beat up our Enemys Quarters. There are here (meaning his House) above four hundred Indians at present, & among them several Deputys from the *Chenussios* & other Senecas who have made Offers of Peace & friendship, which will not be accepted, but on Terms of Concession advantageous to our future Security & such as will leave on their Minds a deep sense of the ill Consequences which must attend their making War on the English."

It gave your friends great Concern to hear of your Indisposition, as a perfect recovery did as sincere a pleasure, for my own part I am really sorry to see from your Letter the times so melancholy, neither Virtue regarded nor Vice punish'd, but as it is convenient to party. It is much to be hop'd this Distemper may abate or a confirm'd madness may succeed.

Among the other Papers inclos'd you will observe Billy Smiths account of Mrs: Packlintons Case, which is a very sensible one, & Doctor Bards who was the Chief Manager of the late Sale & was very glad to bring it about as a beneficial Thing. My Advice would be to sell for the most it would fetch, for there never was a Title I beleive involv'd in more perplexitys. Leary has got the Horse but when he will pay for him God knows. You must come over & take it out in his way. The Woman has play'd the Devil at Greenwich & run away, they say she went over with Aberdeen. I cannot have a good Opinion of the Gardiner, suffering it without complaining. Inclos'd is the Account of the Matter as it now stands. I could have wish'd you had said something about the House. The Lt: I beleive will do right, the Custom House has paid me your Third £124.1.1 per Account inclos'd. I gave Dad

H—— a Jog to day, what Effect it has we shall soon see.

If Jarvis finishes the Coat in time I will send it by Napier he says he could not work at it in the Winter. I deliverd your Message to Mr: Lott, Your friends are all tolerably well, Mr: Chambers¹²³ quite cured, we bury'd him Yesterday, now or never for Mr: Reade surely. Mr: Apthorp I hear has got an exemplification of his Mandamus come over, the Original being lost. In settling with the Scotts Men for their Land there was as usual much honour & sweet Blood, but mickle Siller, so all hands were content to take their Obligation. Yours is in my Possession as half Governor amounting to £293.15 Currancy which I take to be very safe. I owe Major Spital £5.12.8 this Currancy which I beg you will pay him if you see him, with my hearty Compliments. Be so good as to remember me to Major Gates too and tell him we are sending Napier Home to give him a fill of American Anecdotes, by Napier I will write to you again.

And now my Dear Sir if you can comprehend what I have been writing I shall be happy, the Daylight & my Eyes are failing together, I must bid you Adieu & with my unfeignd regard to the family subscribe myself

Per the Pitt Packet

New York 18th April 1764

COLL: JOHN YOUNG

SIR

This Will come upon you I beleive at a time when you had forgot your Suit with, & even your Antagonist himself, Mr: Tongue. Mr: Duane whom you employd in the Law defended it as long as he could, but when he came to the Tryal the young Vixin swore so stoutly to some of the Controverted Articles & your Servants being away who were the only Evidences in our favour, privy

¹²³ Hon. John Chambers, member of the Council of the Province and formerly Justice of the Supreme Court, died April 10, 1764, in the sixty-fifth year of his age. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, April 12, 1764.

to the whole Dispute, we fell through for want of them, a common Misfortune in the Labyrinths of the Law, God keep us all out of it for the future. The Attorneys Bill I send with this by our worthy friend Mr: Napier whom we loose with great regret, the Charge you will be so kind as to repay to him. With regard to that Charge I can only say that I have been obligd to submit to it with great reluctance, & that your suffering is common with all others, who get under the Harrow of the Law in this part of the World. My respects to Mrs: Young tho I have not the honour to be known to her & wishing you health & happiness I remain

Damages & Costs to the Plaintiff per Bill £31. 8.9

Defendants Bill, Council & Disbursements 23.12.3

£55.11.0 at 85

per Ct: the Current Exchange is £30.0.6½ Sterling

Per Mr. Napier

New York 19th April 1764

PHILIP GIBBS ESQ:

SIR

My last was 5th Instant Via Philadelphia with the Sale of your Rum producing £225.7.8. Luckily I have succeeded in my Essay to N: England for a Passage for the Horses & this will be forwarded with them from New Haven by Capt: Kilby of that Place, whom I have desired to tell the Master he may be sure of a reward if he takes proper Care & delivers them in very good Order. The terms of Transportation are rather high, but there was no alternative, & they remaind at an Expence after they were purchasd. I hope they may please you, as I have not seen them I can give no Opinion about them, the Man I employd is esteemd One of the best Men in that part of the Country. Seven are black I am informd, one a light Bay inclinable to the Sorrel. Capt: Kilby will give you their particular description in the Bill of Lading, the

exact Price or Charges I am not yet able to give you being uninformed myself. Six of them Cost £24 & £25 equally divided, the remaining Two I have had no information of yet. My Compliments to Mr: Clarke if he approves of yours, it will be an Encouragement to venture more cheerfully on some Cavalry for him, but I cant but own I allways act with great diffidence in these Matters. I am very truly

Via New Haven, Copy Via Philadelphia to Josh: Howell

N. B. The above Vessel it's thought will Sail from New Haven the 21st or 22d April Instant

Via Philadelphia

New York 19th April 1764

CAPTAIN KILBY

SIR

I am glad you have got the Horses & wish them safe over the Water, dont forget to tell the Master Mr: Gibbs will not fail to reward him for his Care if they arrive in good Order. When you know what have been your Expences pray furnish me with an Account of them that I may re-embourse you & be so kind as to inclose the Letter I now send you to Mr: Gibbs with the Bill of Lading, describing very particularly the Horses if any other go in the Vessel, if none do, it is not so necessary in Order to give the Owner entire satisfaction. The Eye Water is sent by Timothy Tuttle. I am

New York 20th April 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

I wrote you by the Packet the fourteenth past to which I beg to be referr'd. Inclos'd is Mitchells third Bill on Poupies 8th Dec: for £200 Sterling for the use of James Neilson.

I am desird by an Acquaintance to beg you would send me an Eight day Clock made by Chater & Sons. Harry White sent two last fall are likd much, they Cost between Nine & Ten Guineas a Piece. Our worthy friend Mr: Napier whom I beg to recommend most warmly to your Notice, has Ten Guineas for the purpose which he will deliver to you. My good wishes to Jack & beleive me

Per Capt. Davis

New York 20th April 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you a lamentable long Letter by the Packet 14th Instant & now shall endeavour to make Amends. Our friend Napier has your Papers & some other of the trifling Scriblings of Philadelphia.

You will have heard Sir William Johnson has concluded a Peace with the Chenussios & other Senecas upon Terms calls Advantageous, if to be depended on, they Cede the free Navigation of the Lakes without Molestation, the Portage from Niagara to Lake Erie on both sides the Streights, deliver up the Two Murderers of McMichal an Irish Man, that begun the War, take the Hatchet against the Delawares & Shawnese & give three Chiefs as Hostages for the Performance of these Articles. Mr: Apthorp's Copy of his Mandamus is come over Certifyd by one Lerpent ¹²⁴ Clerk in Lord Hallifax's Office, the old Gentleman took the opinion of Council upon admitting him, all but old Smith thought there could be no room to suspect an Imposition from a Gentleman of Mr: Apthorps Character & therefore as the Council wanted Members were for his Admission, expecially as it could be attended with no dangerous or hurtfull Consequences, but the old Man is confounded wary, boggles much, is afraid of burning his fingers & I beleive will not admit

¹²⁴ John Larpent. A copy of his certificate is printed in the *Colden Letter Books*, I, 267 (*N. Y. Hist. Soc. Coll.* 1876).

him, the Council trouble their Heads very little about it. So it rests at present. Jarvis will have the Beaver Coat finish'd in Ten days or a fortnight. Have patience with me a very little time longer & I will form a State of your Account & make a farther remittance unless you countermand it. Napier will inform you of every thing. My loss in him is irreparable, but time & Vicissitudes have made a piece of a Philosopher of me.

Per Capt. Davis

New York 24th April 1764

MR: WILLIAM BRYMER

SIR

Inclos'd is Invoice & Bill of Lading for the Twelve Chests of Spanish Powder Sugar I mention'd to you yesterday I was Shipping to Quebec. The Rum or Spirits as I suspected was shut out. With respect to the Proceeds you will either remit them to Sir William Baker or to me here as may be most convenient & best. I am

Per Capt. Campbell

New York 25th April 1764

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

DEAR SIR

My two last were design'd & I beleive went by Capt: White from Philadelphia with Eighty half Johannes', the one dated 31st January the other 18th February. Since which I have none of your favours.

At a Venture I orderd Mr: Gibbs Horses to be bought at Esopus a District on the West Side of the River about Mid Way between this & Albany most in reputation for good Draught Horses, of any part of the Province or perhaps of any part of any of the Neighbouring Provinces, but the War has both thinnd them & raisd the Price to an extravagant pitch, insomuch that the English Gentlemen tell us, you can have them brought to the Islands

where Ships come out empty, cheaper in proportion to the Quality, from thence than from North America.

After having Mr: Gibbs Horses on my hands at an Expence I was to seek a Passage for them & writing to several parts of Connecticut luckily found a Conveyance from New Haven from whence we were obligd to send an Express to fetch them. As soon as I thought I had securd a Transportation, I wrote to Esopus to secure a pair or two more for you but my directions came too late, however I shall not forget your Commands, if Horses offer of a proper recommendation and a Conveyance to transport them. If you approve of Mr. Gibbs' it will encourage me to proceed with more Alacrity, for I own I am extremely diffident in the Commerce of Horse Flesh. G: Monckton was well the middle of February but had been cut for a Fistula. I dont find his Interest very powerfull as partys are Circumstanced, a change however is thought to be very near at hand & high time it is, the Nation should come to its quiet & to it's senses.

Mr: Allen is coming Home in May or June, he has been very busy as an American about the premeditated Taxes &ca: that hover over us, to support the Troops posted in the Northern Colonys. Wilke's contested point of Priviledge was carryd in the Negative by the Court only 207 to 197, the Legality of the Secretary of States Commitment, in a manner given up, but postpond four Months by the previous question for a farther Consideration 232 to 218. We are just now inform'd Pondiac has again invested the Detroit with two Thousand Indians. Major Gladwin still Commands there. Coll: Bradstreet with a large Party of Regulars & Provincials is preparing to move up soon to his Assistance. I am with great truth

Sent by & recommended to Mr. Bradford

New York 30th April 1764

CAPTAIN KILBY

SIR

I would have answerd your Letter by the last Post, but he was returnd before it was sent to me. Mr: Gibbs will be obligd to you as I am for the Care & precautions you have shewn & used in regard to his Horses, which I wish he may receive safe & to his liking.

Inclosd is Mr: James McEver's Bill on Mr: Ralph Isaces for Twenty Eight Pounds lawfull Money the Expence &ca: of the Horses. I thought this way of re-emboursing you as convenient as any, if any difficulty attends the Bills return it me & I'll satisfy you another way. I have added Two Pistoles to the Costs for your trouble, which you know I must be quite a Stranger to, but at a random estimate, & therefore if I have fallen short let me know it & I will add whatever may be thought proper. I am

New York 5th May 1764

MR: JOHN RIDDELL

Norfolk, Virginia

SIR

I have your favour of 17th Ult: with Bill of Lading for the Corn by Modie, the Freight of which I dont understand, may be the Gentleman at Madeira may. Your Commoditys are all so high there is no touching 'em it forbids an intercourse. If Corn should be under 3/ this Currancy, Wheat under 4/9 or 5/ at most & a Vessel double deckd offers for Madeira you may convert my Sugar into Grain & I'll sup it up without Tea. As to your Question about bartering all the Sugar at 14 d: for Corn, as you mention no Price I can give but the general Answer I have done. Wheat is here about 4/6, Corn 2/9 & how much preferable to yours in quality! Oates we have bought at 18 d: tis now something more. Inclos'd is Bill of Lading for a hhd: of refin'd Sugar No. 1 qt. 45

Lo: Ntt. 487 which you will be pleas'd to mix with the other, wherever it goes, if to Madeira the same order still continues for the best Wines, if that does not take place, then I beleive a Bill must be the thing sent here, unless you can conjure something better. Grain to this place can never do, but whatever track you take, be as expeditious as you can, old Adventures, especially small Ones, are as disagreeable as old Women. I am

Per Capt. Wallace ¹²⁵

New York 5th May 1764

PHILIP GIBBS Esq:

SIR

I wrote you 19th Ult: Via New haven by Capt: Brint-nol who carryd your Horses, a Copy of that Letter I sent thro' Philadelphia. Having since collected from Mr: Sleght & Capt: Kilby the Cost & Charges of your Horses it is inclosd amounting to £244.0.11 & exceeds the Produce of your Rum as you'll observe by comparing the Invoice & the Sales together £18.13.3. If the Horses should prove too dear which I am no Judge of, not having seen them, it has been out of my power to prevent it, the Person who bought them is esteemd an honest Man & fit for the purpose, I Shipt them off in the best & frugalest Manner Circumstances would admit of, & have chargd no more than the actual Expences, from a Consciousness the Amount would run full high by the time they reachd you. If I should be agreeably disappointed it will give me a double pleasure to have your purposes answer'd, & upon moderate Terms. I am

Via Philadelphia

¹²⁵ Richard Wallace, captain of the schooner *Nancy*, from and to Virginia. *N. Y. Mercury*, April 30, May 14, 1764.

New York 7th May 1764

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

Soon after I wrote you 2d February last relating to Edmonds the suffering Ransomer in the Prison of Bayonne, I receivd your Letter of 2d January on the same Subject. What has been the meaning of all this cruel Neglect I cant conceive. I wrote to G: Monckton to speak to Capt: Bayley or General Rufane to get the poor Wretch releasd, but it is to be hop'd the Articles of Peace may do it, which discharge all Obligations of that kind, if we apprehend them right here.

I have receivd from the Insurors at last 18 per Ct: on the Policey of the Little Molly pursuant to the Award amounting to £90, & they have likewise allowd the £10.7.6 for the Pillage you mention & recording the Papers; the whole £126 Antigo Currancy paid Mr: Griffin was not to be re-emboursd, the Freight you know was savd by the Ransom & ought to bear it's proportion, tho' it falls out a good deal less.

I have also at last got the Underwriters to return one half the Premium on the Molly from Martinico to Barbados, more I could not make of it without Law, & that I could not think you would engage in, for such a Triffle especially, this return being 6 per Ct: on £437.10.0 amounts to £26.5 & these three Sums receivd from the Insurors amounting to £126.2.6. deducted from the Ballance of your former Account renderd 30th July £155.1.7 in my favour, still leave £28.19.1 due to me.

I own most cordially with you, this whole Transaction has been attended with abundant delays, Vexations & Disappointments, besides the Advance of a good deal of Money, but at the same time you'll allow no small portion of all these troubles have fallen to my share, so much that it would not be a small Temptation would induce me to go thro' such a Scene again, tho' I could heartily wish it had ended more to your Advantage, which I once flatterd myself it would have done, but upon

the whole considering the Vessel in the hands of the Enemy it has not ended ill. I am

You have herewith a Copy of the Invoice to Martinico amounting to £479.11.8. From the two Sums of £100.7.6 Loss on the Molly the Clerk deducts Commissions 10%.

Via Philadelphia

New York 15th May 1764

MR: WILLIAM BRYMER

SIR

I have shipt three hhd: of the old Jamaica Spirit shut out of the King of Prussia per the Bearer Capt: Bryson ¹²⁶ whose Bill of Lading is inclosed together with a Second Bill of Lading for the Sugar. Commerce is so stagnated here that little or nothing sells, & Payments for what does sell keeps the same dull Pace. With respect to a remittance my former Orders will still hold good. I am

Per Capt. Bryson

New York 16th May 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I have your favour to acknowledge of the 10th March by the same Packet that carries this, these swimming Posts have been pretty well workd of late. I shall not fail to make use of your Name with the Governors of the College in favour of Doctor Clossy, whenever it is seasonable to do it, at present it is not, there is no Opening for Anatomical Lectures, the Students are so few & the Funds so overchargd, besides we have so many of the Faculty allready destroying his Majestys good Subjects, that in the humour people are, they had rather One half were hangd that are allready practicing, than breed up

¹²⁶ John Bryson, captain of the ketch *Mercury*, to Quebec. N. Y. *Mercury*, May 14, 21, 1764.

a New Swarm in addition to the old, you'll say 'tis the way to have abler Practitioners, it will help them no doubt, but bad enough of Conscience are the best we breed here. Another Obstacle stands in the way too, Sir James who is their Mendicant at Home & has been very successful, propos'd a Branch of this kind of Education, but I don't find it relish'd at all, & tho' it might not serve him, it might disserve another, by throwing his Name & pretensions in the way, however we shall not be un-mindfull of the Doctor when any Nail will go. I have a Letter from Coll: Barré & would serve him with pleasure both for his publick & private Virtues, but times & Seasons must be minded or we do nothing. The Colonys are extremely incens'd at the Treatment they have receiv'd from the Mother Country, & tho' it has not had its effects in One Sense, it has in another, which I beleive will never be obliterated. They seem to wish Canada again French, it made them of some Consequence, which Consequence they lost when it was conquer'd, if their reasoning be just. They certainly would not grant a Man for that or any other use was it to be done over again. I hear so much of it in Conversation, I have no Stomach left to write upon the Subject.

Jarvis has at last finish'd the Beaver Coat. Jacobson of the Ship Hope will deliver it to you, it Cost with the case £36.5 this Currancy.

Mr: Colden tells me he has wrote to & sent you an Opinion relative to the Dispute subsisting between the Governors & Sea Officers about Merchantile Plunder, there is an inconsistency it seems committed at Home, which it behoves each side to see clear'd up in their favour. Another late Opinion has been given & printed at Boston in favour of the Governors, that I imagine Mr: Bernard must be at the Bottom of, it speaks so feelingly, & no wonder, 'tis a pretty feather enough in the Cap of Government. They wont suffer Mr. Colden to touch a Shilling here till the Matter is determin'd, in which you are involv'd the One Moity.

I have deliver'd the Papers & Votes to Capt: Jacobson & remain with great regard, Dear Sir

Bradstreet is preparing to go on with some Regulars, Jersey Men, New York Connecticut and Canadian Troops. Moncrief I suppose will be particular.

Per Capt. Jacobson

N. B. Wrote Napier by this Conveyance

New York 22d May 1764

JAMES NAPIER ESQ:

DEAR SIR

I wrote you a few days ago by Jacobson & inclosd such Letters as were come to my hand from Europe & were to be return'd. I promis'd you to remit the Amount of your Furniture, & Bartows Note, by this Packet which I now do, consisting of James Parkers Two Bills on Arnold Nesbitt, the one dated 4th May for £150 Sterling the other 5th May for £200 Sterling at thirty Days & at 82½ per Ct: Exchange, amounting to £638.15 Currancy, which falls somewhat short of your demand on me, but I could not at this moderate Exchange command the exact Sum I wanted, besides am to Accommodate the difference of your rent with either the Custom House People, or with Alsop, when that is done I will order what small Value remains, to be paid you in London. Bartows Affair was good Jobbing enough, to get 5 per Ct: on the Exchange & at the rate of Seven for Interest, you cant I reckon do better with your Money in England. None of your Memorandums are paid in. I have reminded all the Gentlemen concern'd, of the respective claims, tho they are all inconsiderable, except that on John Stevens, which he says shall be paid when they get their Money of the General. Your Liquor remains safe so far, in my Cellar, & stands a better chance than my own, because I shant make so free with it.

I thought to have remitted the Hospital Money by this

Packet, but upon Second thoughts, I will wait a few days, till the Medicine Money comes in & make one work of it. The Exchange I believe will not be quite so favourable as yours is, which was a lucky hit enough for a small Affair.

N. B. Then follows Major Loftus' disappointment & return, to Orleans, his loss, kill'd & deserted. Then an Evenings Review &c:, and lastly Coll. Bouquet's Whisper, the Philadelphia assembly changing their Minds & passing the Bill to raise a thousand Men, in the Shape the King & Council had directed.

Per the Harriot Packet

New York 24th May 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you by Jacobson a few days ago & sent the Beaver Coat fabricated by Jarvis. I come now to perform my Engagment of rendering your Account which is inclosed & still leaves a Ballance of £71.3.8 in your favour, after charging the four Setts of Bills now transmitted, all drawn by James Parker on Arnold Nesbitt, dated 2d, 6th, 7th, 8th Inst: for £100, £100, £200, & £100 Sterling at thirty days sight & 82½ per Ct: Exchange amounting to £912.10 Currancy. These are among the few Bills that have sold at this Exchange & I beleive will be among the last. The Detachment under Major Loftus destind to Fort Chartres on the Mississippi are returnd to Mobille or New Orleans I forgot which, nor does it Matter much. About Seventy or Eighty Leagues on their way they were fired upon by the Indians & lost Six Men, this (probably) with fatigue & some other unpalatable Circumstances, faced them about. They were it's said three & twenty days going this distance, what then must have been their Journey to the Ilinois, which is calld four Hundred Leagues. This Country will very likely in process of time be found most accessible through some good

River that Heads near a Branch of the Ohio and falls into the Atlantick. The Philadelphia Assembly, some Letters tell us, have wisely determind for the publick Service to give up the point of Taxation they were contending, & will by raising the Thousand Men formerly Voted enable Coll: Bouquet to act offensively, he had leave, & intentions too I imagine, to go Home but this Change of Measures, so much for the better & so unexpected, will require his Service another Campaign. The Side that gave the point up for the publick good I allways thought had the most Merit, & wonderd how either could hesitate a Moment about it. But party rage is a sad Fury.

The Connecticut Men never in a hurry, are now passing by Water to join Colonel Bradstreet, who is still himself at Albany. All the other Troops have been up some time. Every thing is quiet at the Detroit & Niagara.

With my hearty regards to all friends I remain
Per the Harriot packet

N. B. Wrote to Coll. Barré by the forgoing Packet. Thank'd him for his opposition to the oppressive Views of Parliament, but imagin'd the Colonys woud not avail themselves of his Advice by Uniting, they were but a Rope of Sand. The Different behaviour of the Colonys, no Notice taken of it at home, all treated alike, the bad Consequence. Our Taxes £40,000 per annum, Houses in Town pay near four shillings in the Pound, the Loan office Money; the Injustice of Taxing the Colonys which had over exerted themselves, before they had recover'd, that this Colony had furnish'd every fifth man. His Scheme for Doctor Clossy Not like to take place. When Gen. Gage paid his appointments I woud remit 'em, perhaps stop Mr. Ross's hundred pounds. Major Loftus return'd, that Country a Burden, will cost much money & many men without a return. Coll. Bouquet able to act by the re-inforcement of the thousand men, the obstinacy & folly of both sides, suffering the Country to go to ruin for such a Trifle as £110 Philadelphia Currency. 24th May.

To Coll. Barré, Charles Street, Berkley Square

New York 6th June 1764

MESSRS: SCOTT, PRINGLE, CHEAP & Co.

GENTLEMEN

I have your favours to acknowledge of 17th March & 13th April, with the last, I receivd by Capt: Elder, Eleven Pipes Wine, which I hope may turn out soon fit for use, as my old Springs are allmost draind, the Quality I cannot give you my Opinion of, as I have not had time since the Arrival of the Vessel, which is but a few days, so much as to open one of them. Mr: Riddell Shipt on my Account from Virginia in a Snow I think Commanded by One Mudie, Two Hundred & Fifty Bushells of Indian Corn which I hope may be lucky enough to arrive in good Order, as it will be worth something at this Juncture tho' a Trifle, at many others the Case may be indifferent whether it arrives at all or no, from the reverse of the Market. The Value you will be pleasd to remit me in Wine for my own use still. I have desird Mr: Riddell if a double deckd Vessel offerd & the Price was within bounds to Ship a much larger Quantity. Wheat was greatly, we find, risen in England even up to 40/ & 42/ the Quarter, in a fortnight it started from 26/ to 38/ on a Call from the Streights, which is very extraordinary, as even Sicily itself was included, perhaps one of the greatest Granarys in the World. I am

New York 7th June 1764

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

DEAR SIR

The Captain deliverd me your favour of 26th April in pretty good health, tho not quite so stout as could be wishd for hunting Savages, he is still here & will not I beleive hurry away unless the General intimates it necessary, which may or may not be, just as it falls out.

I should be glad at your Leisure for a Transcript of my Account, yours I renderd in July last, the Ballance I beleive cant be great, but be what it will I would discharge

it & begin of a New. I desird Mr: Allen to send you Two Dozen of the best Hams from Philadelphia Money could buy, from hence we are allways puzzeld for a Conveyance or you should have had such another Supply long ago. I have Letters from Mr. Monckton 13th April, his Tryal was to come on next day for Major Campbells Affair at Martinico, he seems to dispise it much, & is rather chagrin'd at the Treatment than apprehensive of the Consequences, the Military indeed of late have been truly used without much Ceremony. Instances of it in abundance offer, some rather disrespectfull. I am extremely pleasd you have Countermanded the Horses, Mr: Gibbs's Specimen will I imagine be Conviction enough for you & him.

A Mr: Chapman sent me the inclosd to be forwarded but says not from whence it came, & as usual I must throw myself on Philadelphia for a Passage.

Coll: Bradstreet is on his way to the Lakes, in order to intimidate or distress the Enemy into a more solid Peace than we have hitherto enjoyd, his force is said to be above three thousand Regulars & Provincials.

I am allways

inclos'd to D. Franks

New York 8th June 1764

RIGHT HONORABLE LORD ROLLO

MY LORD

Three Days ago I was favourd with your Lordships Letter of 13th April, with another from Mr: Hardy & immediatly waited upon Mr: Livingston to acquaint him with your request, who assurd me he would give your Lordship all the Intelligence he could about the Prizes by this Packet, & Transmit the necessary Papers, which that he might not mistake I left with him a Copy of the last Paragraph of your Lordships Letter that mentions them. I have the honour to be

Per the Hallifax packet

New York 9th June 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

I am a Debtor for your kind Letters of 31st March and 13th April which were the more acceptable & obliging, if one Letter from a friend deserves the pre-eminence of another, as they are so explicit & full of Confidence, which allways must be highly greatfull & indeed necessary, where a well grounded Friendship is meant to be supported.

My Kinsman John says his Brother the little Captain is well employd in the Indies, when he returns you may probably have the expected Application.

The Funds are something like the Ministry, they do it's true exist & sometimes get up a little, but a Devilish suspicious sort of Credit unstrings both, & leaves the Body rather crawling than walking upright, & in the End if things go on, may make it irrecoverably deform'd. I have a Letter from Mr: Lane of Cork, no opportunity offer'd to execute my Order, but I thank you for your precaution, it was both right & kind. My Account I have no time at present to run over, both the Packet ¹²⁷ & Berton arriv'd on Tuesday last & the Mail closes to day, so that we have but a short Interval of time to do our Business in. This Sessions I find has not only been tempestuous with respect to the Internal Oeconomy of the Kingdom, but America has had it's share too, it were to be wishd the Matters under Consideration affecting the Northern Colonys were better understood & more deliberately carryd into Execution. If I mistake not the present doctrine will destroy the very means that enable them to take off the Manufactorys of the Mother Country, which without doubt the Colonys themselves will repine at when tis first felt, as they have too much run into habits of Luxury, but it is a right Medicine for all that, tho' the Physician has mistook the Distemper, & may not be aware of

¹²⁷ The *Earl of Halifax* packet boat, Capt. John Bolderson, arrived at N. Y. Tuesday, June 5, 1764, in six weeks and one day from Falmouth. *N. Y. Mercury*, June 11, 1764.

the Operation. It must from Necessity bring us into a State of frugality, oblige us to Cloath ourselves, with the plain Manufactorys of our own Country, & in time may bring the Artists of Brittain here for Employment, unless they can find out the Secret of Consuming the fruits of all their Labours themselves. The Colonys ought to be encouragd in every thing that does not injure the Mother Country, because every Shilling they collect from whatever part of the world it be, centers there, increases the intercourse & makes them more dependent; whereas Necessity being the Mother of Invention, they will strike out Improvements within themselves, they would otherwise never have thought of & without a Prohibition that never yet took place in the English Government, will have, as I have said, the Artificers of Brittain to carry them on. I hear so much of it here every day & Peoples Minds are so sower'd & imbitter'd on the Subject, that it really is irksome to say one Syllable about the Matter. I dont fall in love with your representation of the Conduct of your late Partners. Candor & steady Manners form the Man, when he deviates, trims, half approves & half disapproves, & what is worst of all, meerly for a little Pelf, that he neither wants nor can enjoy, that Man is groveling, indeed & deserves the worst that can happen. You may be assur'd we have a high sense of your Care & trouble in continuing the Agency to us & we certainly shall endeavour to meritt your recommendation, but I must own had I been on the Spot, I should not have taken the pains you did, nor have suffered you to have done it. Dealing with Generals & Armys & Commissarys & Quarter Masters & Secretarys & God knows who, is such a trying Situation as would often discompose the Philosophy of Socrates. Your present Engagement has indeed cured a great deal of the Evil, by reaching no farther than the Stated Deposits, and clearing up several Matters of faith, that before were me[r]ely speculative.

Provisions, I mean the Price of them, will turn probably more & more in your favour & I hope reward the great pains you have been at both for yourself and your

friends. Sir Samuel I know not but by Character. Mr: Drummond was my old friend & Acquaintance & an extremely well disposed Man to all Appearance, he would laugh till he sat the whole Company laughing, & was very jolly in the bargain, but I own when he left us in the Kings Livery I little thought of having a Connection with him of this kind, pray pay him my Compliments, if the Packet allows me time I will write him a Line but am apprehensive I shall hardly have more than to labour thro' what is absolutely necessary. I hope we have said enough to intitle you to the second Payment 'tis all we could possibly say with any propriety & a good Conscience, which tho' a follower of your Namesake, you would not have us half converted Folks, quite throw off. Our Superiors need have given themselves very little trouble about our Paper Money, we are as cautious about the abuse of it as they can be, & therefore in every Act of Emission provide for sinking of it, in the same Bill, in short Periods, by a Tax on all Estates Real and Personal. We sink this way forty Thousand Pounds a Year which runs to near four Shillings in the Pound upon the Rent of Houses in this City, which is Tax enough in Conscience for a young Country, in Sixty Seven all our Paper Currancy will be sunk except forty Thousand Pounds put out on Loan at 5 per Ct: for Support of Government and continu'd from Year to Year more at the Instance hitherto of Governors than the Governed, as it strenthen'd the hands of Government, by being lodgd in the Treasury for the publick use, to be drawn out by Act only. All our great Expences and Emissions have proceeded from a hearty desire of shewing ourselves dutifull Subjects, by Conforming to all the requisitions of the Crown; for two or three Campaigns the Levees amounted to every fifth Man in the Province & failing of Volunteers the number was to be made up out of the Inhabitants, & the Man detach'd oblig'd to go on pain of Death or get another in his Room, which fell grievously heavy, even Quakers were not exempt, in some Countys they Class'd them into fives & each Class was oblig'd to find a

Man, or one of them to be detach'd. But all this has no Merit in it, on the other hand the Evils these Exertions (of Paper Money) have brought upon us, we are blamd for, when they are in themselves inevitable. We have no resources upon an Emergency but in Paper Money & if it be duely sunk we dont see the great Mischief of it to the Publick. The Colonys that have been disobedient are the happy people, they pay no Taxes, they suffer no Reproaches, nay they are not involvd in the reflections that fall upon their Neighbours who have been obedient, because not having obeyd the Royal Requisitions, they have raisd no Men, emitted no Paper Currancy & by the Rule of Contrarys have savd their Money & their Credit too, ingenious People to find out such an Expedient!

On the 9th of April 1763 by recommendation of Messrs: Maxwell & Udny of Antigo I indorsd a Bill here for Mr: Charles Baird who was appointed Comptroller to all Canada, went thro this place thither, but meeting with some difficultys I am told is now in London, if you saw him you could not miss the Man, one of Esop's Breed, a little hump back'd, civil, ugly, Toad. The Bill was for £75 Sterling drawn by himself on James Baird Esq: in Downing Street, if refus'd to apply to John Clarke at the Carolina Coffee House, as it was payable to me & my Name on the back, it was assign'd to David Milligan of this Place & he indorsd it again to Messrs: George Drink-Water & Co: who got a Notary Publick calld William Tudman to offer it both to Baird & to Clarke, who both refusing Payment, it was return'd Protested & I oblig'd to pay the Value with 20 per Ct: Damages & Interest from the time it was returnd, as it lay sometime supposing Mr: Baird the Drawer would give some Orders about it, but I never could hear a Syllable from him since. And therefore I must beg the favour of you to order a strict Enquiry & if he is to be found, make him pay the Debt with Interest till it is dischargd, the Train I have given you is Guide enough I believe, & the Proof sufficient to hold him to Security, till I can send the Original Bill Protest &ca: if wanted. With respect to the Interest

dont stand upon Triffles, tho' Seven is the invariable Standard here. The Account is subjoind. And now let me obtain pardon for this unconscionable Letter, & an entire exemption from all Prosecutions, either of Kings, Lords or Commons, for Treasons Misprissions of Treasons, Libels &ca: &ca:, & I wont offend in the like manner a long time, this you may with safety beleive from

£75 Sterling at 90 per Ct: Exchange£142.10...
 Damage or re-exchange 20 per Ct: 28.10...

Interest one Month from the 26th October..£171.....
 it was return'd to 26th November 1.....
 Ditto till paid

Per the Hallifax Packet

New York 11th June 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

Since I wrote you 24th Ult: by the Harriot Packet I am favoured with yours of 11th & 13th April by the Hallifax, the first by Mr: Hassenclever whom we have initiated into our Sett & shall make a good American enough, if talking will do it upon the Treatment the Colonys have receivd & are like to receive from their kind Mother, he says they have quite mistook the Matter & that their Laws will in the end operate more against themselves than against us. May God of his infinite Mercy grant it. Was I to have been simply governd by Major Campbells written Exhibition against you I should have thought our Governor stood a chance of being exalted indeed, but your own indifference & the informations of my other friends have given me great Confidence in his safety & innocence, but after all tis an infernal way of treating a Man of Character, I cant see thro' it for my Life, our old World is too mysterious for us short

sighted Inhabitants of the New. Leary¹²⁸ has won a Bowl in truth & I askd for it gravely in your name, but he laughd at me, I own I would compound to resign the Cup, if he would but pay for the Horse, which I believe will be long enough first, unless as I before said, you come over & take it out in his way, which every Body wishes you would do, we will Club for the Bowl. Inclosd are the Second Bills for £500 Sterling, the Originals of which were in my last. I have not receivd any Money since on your Account, nor paid any that I recollect. The Warrants were signd the day before yesterday for another Quarter, & Mr: Reade qualify'd after all his Disappointments. My Compliments to Sir Harry Seton I thank him for the Claret 'tis just arrivd. Bradstreet has left Albany on his Expedition. Coll: Bouquet it's said will have above Sixteen Hundred Men under his Command & goes down the Ohio with the greatest part of them, this must be against the Shawnese, if true.

My regards to all friends & believe me ever

The Old Gentleman has not paid for the Charriot, I sent him a Card that I was sending your Account & desird to know what I must say about it, he enquired very obligingly of your health, but no Cash, he really whis-perd, he did not happen to have so much in the House. I beleive I shall send you no Papers. Not a Passenger goes in the Packet, the Captain says he dare not take them even open, & Postage they are not worth.
Per the Hallifax Packet

JAMES NAPIER ESQ:

New York 11th June 1764

MY DEAR SIR

I wrote you last by the Harriot Packet & inclosd two Setts of Bills for £350 Sterling drawn by James Parker

¹²⁸ General Monckton's horse was called Smoaker. See Watts' letter to Monckton, June 1, 1765, printed in full in *Coll. Mass. Hist. Soc.*, 4th ser., X, 573. John Leary owned a race horse named Old England. *N. Y. Mercury*, Oct. 8, 15, 1764. See articles on horse racing and breeding in N. Y., by John Austin Stevens, in which letters of John Watts are cited, in *The Rider and Driver* (N. Y.), Feb. 11, 25, 1893, vol. IV, nos. 24, 26.

on Arnold Nesbitt at 82½ per Ct: Exchange. I have since paid Abeel fifteen Pounds difference, lost on your House rent, & Alsop the Landlord takes the Custom House for the residue. Inclos'd are the Second Bills of the above mentioned Setts & I would order the small Balance of your Account to be paid, but I really have not time. You know I am absurd enough allways to put the evil hour off to the last extremity & then I pay for it. Abeel cannot collect the Medicine Money, the faculty who bought them are so poor, pity one Devil had Money or Credit to buy one Ounce & then it would be out of their power to poison people. Munro¹²⁹ talks of getting the Generals Warrant on you for some Expences of the Pittsburg Department under your Inspection, which he says I must pay in your behalf, it may or may not be right, I am sure I cant tell. Barr¹³⁰ is set off with Bradstreet to kill all the Indians. The Letter I herewith send I believe is from him. All Quiet at the Detroit & Niagara. The Assembly of Philadelphia by passing the Bill have strengthen'd Coll: Bouquet greatly, it's reported he will have above Sixteen Hundred Men & will act offensively down the Ohio. If these Neighbouring Rascals the Shawnese & Delawares could be routed effectually, it would be a notable Service, but it is no easy Matter to surprize or overtake these human Beasts. Your friends constantly remember you & would be glad to hear of your safe Arrival. The Shop is a Custom House still, but of a very different kind, it administers Oaths instead of Oysters, a dissimilar Food indeed. The Party you form'd for Philadelphia are not yet returnd, but by our Advices were to reach Brunswyck on Saturday & set out for Mr: Kemble's¹³¹ this morning in their way Home. No Alteration that I can recollect, in a regard for you be assur'd you never will find any in

Per the Hallifax Packet

¹²⁹ Dr. George Munro, a physician. James Napier was director general of hospitals. *Calendar of N. Y. Council Minutes*, 413, 511.

¹³⁰ William Barr, a surgeon. *Ibid.*, 413, 511.

¹³¹ Hon. Peter Kemble (1704-1789). See prefatory note by Edward F. deLancey, in *N. Y. H. S. Collections for 1884*, xiii-xv.

New York 21st June 1764

MESSRS: GEORGE & JOHN RIDDELL

Virginia

GENTLEMEN

I am just favoured with yours without a Date to which the Account Sales is annexd of my Two little Adventures of Sugar by Philips & Wallace. We are not of your Opinion with respect to single Deck'd Vessels for Grain, double Deckd have allways by much the Preference, however as Corn is wanted at Madeira & fallen with you, if a proper Vessel of any sort offers, I should like to have an Adventure on board of her in that Commodity, but great Caution is necessary to see that it is thoroughly dry & fit for Shipping, otherwise Ten to One but it perishes. I have not yet heard of Mudies Arrivale, nor have you sent me an Invoice of the Corn he has on board. I am

The first hhd: of Sugar sold by Philips is cast up 10/ short it ought to be £14.18.8.

Via Philadelphia with And. Hamilton, Copy per the America¹³²

New York 27th June 1764

MR: HENRY CRUGER JUN:

SIR

The Linnens came safe by Capt: Kerr for which you have Mr: Antill's thanks as well as mine. The Ballance due to you of £11.5 Sterling Mr. Kendrick who goes Passenger in this Ship has promisd me to deliver you on his Arrival, a Guinea & a Six Pence comes pretty near the Matter. I neglected two or three Opportunitys either of answering your Letter or remitting the Ballance, which I hope you'll excuse. I am

You have inclosd by Mr: Neilsons Directions & for his Account Delancey & Watt's Bill on Sir Sam: Fludyer

¹³² The ship *America*, William Escote, captain, cleared from N. Y. for Virginia. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, July 5, 1764.

Bart: Adam Drummond & Moses Franks Esq: of this date, Value £100 Sterling payable at forty Days Sight.

Per the Prince George & Capt. Berton ¹³³

New York 29th June 1764

MR: THOMAS PENINGTON & SON

GENTLEMEN

I am indebted to you for your favours of 20th January & 22d March with Coll: Byrds Bill Protested which I shall take Care of, tho' I must own it was little expected. Logwood has long been & is still like to be an Article stubbornly perverse, but what shall we say, the Market is arbitrary & will be obeyd. By James Neilsons directions you have inclosed John Mitchell's Bill on John Poumies for his use, Value £200 Sterling dated at Louisbourg 14th May payable to & endorsd by Delancey & Watts, which you will be pleased to pass to his Credit when paid. I am

Per the Prince George & Capt. Berton

New York 30th June 1764

THE HONOURABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you every thing I could recollect 11th Instant by the Hallifax Packet. With this you will receive the third Bills for £500 Sterling drawn by Parker on Nesbitt, the Chance is great they will not be wanted, but 'tis a Merchantman carrys them & the Expence small, to Mr: Myers ¹³⁴ who goes with his family Home by the same Opportunity I shall recommend your Papers, the Packet I told you could carry none.

¹³³ The ship *Prince George*, Capt. Hathorn, for Bristol, and the ship *York*, Capt. Berton, for London, both sailed from N. Y. on Thursday, July 5, 1764. *N. Y. Mercury*, July 9, 1764.

¹³⁴ Naphtaley Hart Myers, of N. Y. and his family sailed on Thursday, July 5, 1764, as passengers in the ship *York*, Capt. (Peter) Berton. *N. Y. Mercury*, July 9, 1764.

The old Gentleman ¹³⁵ call'd upon me the other day & paid for the Charriot, £60 with many hearty wishes for your return, a good deal I am sensible out of regard to you, but a little too out of disregard to his old Antagonist, as a Cordial Antipathy has long subsisted between them, which even the Grimace of old age can't smother. I beleive it wont be long before the Bench will require another Appointment between him & your favourite Presbyterian Judge, ¹³⁶ who declines fast too, & never at best was worth any thing. Never poor Colony was worse provided for in general, nor do I see any probability of an Amendment, the Salarys as they are, will not tempt an able Lawyer to leave his practice & if they should be rais'd, some Scurvy fellow it's Ten to One like Jones, ¹³⁷ would be cram'd upon the Colony, because his Patron did not know what else to do with him. Since Paper Money makes such a needless racket I should be glad to know what is the Lords of Trades Opinion about the £40,000 emitted on Loan for the Support of Government & has been continu'd from Year to Year this long time as a usefull Fund in the Treasury, not to be disposed of but by an Act of the Legislature. As we sink about forty thousand Pounds a Year by Tax on Real & Personal Estates all our Paper Money will be at an End in Sixty Seven, unless this usefull Emission should be continu'd as it hitherto has been, which I think would be very proper if any Paper Money is at all to be permitted, however that is as our Superiors please, for my own part if no directions are transmitted for our Government, I beleive I shall Vote according to Conscience & venture my honour & glory in a Matter I conceive for the good of the publick in general, without any inconvenience whatever attending it.

July 3d. The Packet ¹³⁸ arriv'd three days ago & tho' I

¹³⁵ Daniel Horsmanden, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

¹³⁶ The elder William Smith (1697-1769), Associate Judge of the Supreme Court.

¹³⁷ David Jones (1699-1775), Associate Judge of the Supreme Court.

¹³⁸ The *Duke of Cumberland* packet, Capt. Goodridge, arrived at N. Y. on Saturday, June 30, 1764, with the May mail, in six weeks and 4 days from Falmouth. *N. Y. Mercury*, July 2, 1764.

have not a Line from one of my friends I have the pleasure of seeing the honourable Sentence of your Court Martial in the Papers which tho' not unexpected, is vastly heightend by being so strongly drawn.¹³⁹ I think Mr: Secretary of W. dont shine in it, & so much the better. Providence often works good out of evil. No Business of Goverment is going on but the common roteen, the old Gentleman resides entirely in the Country, & begins I beleive to imagine he shall spend all his days in Office. I am with truth

Per Capt. Berton

New York 30th June 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

Having wrote you an immoderate long Letter so late as the 9th Inst: by the Hallifax Packet, I cant recollect one Syllable to be added, but to inclose you John Mitchell's Bill on John Pournies for the use of James Neilson dated at Louisbourg 15th May Value £200 Sterling at thirty Days Sight payable to and indors'd by Delancey & Watts. We shall write to the late Contractors by Berton who sails in a day or two. G: Gage seems still disposd to grant the Canada Certificate of Transferr, but Leake is at Philadelphia for a week or two, & we judge it best to wait till he returns to conferr with him personally, would to God it was finish'd. Pray pay Mr: Napier £28.4.6 Currency at 82½ or 85 per Ct: as you & he like. I allways am, Dear Sir

Per Capt. Berton & Hathorn

¹³⁹ See *Proceedings of a General Court Martial, held at the Judge Advocate's Office, in the Horse Guards, On Saturday the 14th, and continued by Adjournment to Wednesday the 18th April 1764; For The Trial of a Charge preferred by Colin Campbell, Esq; against the Honourable Major General Monckton*. London, 1764, pp. 98. The court decided "that the charge and complaint of Colin Campbell, Esq; against Major General Robert Monckton is altogether unsupported by evidence, and in some points expressly contradicted by the complainant's own witnesses; and doth therefore most honourably acquit the said Major General Monckton of the same and every part thereof."

New York 3d July 1764

JAMES NAPIER ESQ:

MY DEAR SIR

My last was 11th Ult: by the Hallifax Packet, by the Cumberland that arrivd three days ago we were in hopes to hear of your Arrival in a short Passage, but were disappointed, however we flatter ourselves it wont be long before we find you are thoroughly cured of the Sickness by a safe landing on the old Island. With this I send you a Group of Letters, & Abeel's Account Sales of the Poison, the Money for which is not quite collected, but in a very little time the whole shall be settled & remitted.

I receivd as before advisd £298.4.6 for your furniture £383.15 of Bartow for his Note; Parkers two Bills remitted amounting to £638.15 the difference of Rent lost on your House £15. the Ballance remaining due to you of £28.4.6 Currancy be so kind as to send to or call upon Mr: Franks for. Your friends are all well as usual, my regards to such of mine as you see & believe me ever, my Dear Sir

Nothing of your black List is paid, Skinner absolutely refuses paying his £6.18.9 at all. Coll: Robertson is going to attend Coll: Bouquet. Bradstreet is moving forward, nothing new from him, the last intelligence was from Oswego.

July 4th. Hap Hazard I have paid by G: Gage's Warrant to Capt: Ourry D.Q.M.G. a Hospital Account amounting to £24.1.1 Pensylvania Currancy equal at 7/6 each to 64½ Dollars & those at 8/ to £25.14 N: York Money, the Warrant is indors'd blank, you may write what is proper over the indorsement, it is inclosd with the Account & Vouchers pursuant to the directions therein contain'd. I am allways

Per Capt. Berton

New York 7th July 1764

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

DEAR SIR

My last went thro' Philadelphia dated this day month, with One inclos'd from Mr: Chapmen, the place of whose residence I know not. The inclosd from the Captain speak for themselves which renders every thing unnecessary from me relative to his Person or Destination. Mr: Allen Jun: tells me he could not get any such Hams for you as he dare recommend, I am sorry for it & am now trying what one of my Quaker friends at Philadelphia can do, these People in that Country seem some how or other to have frequently more resources than their Neighbors. We'll try it for this time it can do no harm. I shall be glad to hear Mr: Gibbs' Horses are arrivd safe, tho' I must own I dont expect much fame from that kind of Intercourse. The Notable Sentence of the Court Martial in favour of Mr: Monckton, tho' not unexpected, yet being expressd in such strong Terms gives his friends a great deal of Satisfaction. The Ministry have made their threats good with respect to Gen: Conway's Dismission, which it was not thought they would. I am with great truth

Via Philadelphia to Josh: Howell, sent per the Jenny,
Capt. Barclay

New York 7th July 1764

MESSRS: MAXWELL & UDNY

GENTLEMEN

Underneath is the Paragraph of a Letter dated 8th January last, I sent two ways but have had no Answer. I cannot hear a Syllable from Mr: Baird or find out where he is, his dead silence tho' I inform'd him of the fate of his Bill before he left Canada, I think worse of than the Protest of the Bill itself, both as unjust & ungentleman like. I must now apply to you Gentlemen upon the Credit of your Letter since I can extort no Answer or information from Mr: Baird himself, the State

of the Matter is annex'd, which I cannot doubt you will re-embourse me as he does not. I am

1763 April 9

Cha. Baird drew on Jam. Baird

(which he protested) for.....£ 75.—.— Sterling

I paid 20 per Ct: re-exchange to Dav.

Milligan 15.—.—

£ 90.—.—

Exchange 90 per Ct. as the Bill sold . 81.—.—

£171.—.—

Interest I paid 1 month from the
return of the Bill 26 Oct. to 26

Nov. 1.—.—

Interest still due till paid

Inclos'd to Ch. & D. Williams Via Philadelphia to Jos.
Howell

New York 9th July 1764

SAMUEL JOHNSON ESQ:

DEAR SIR

I have £319.15.—Lawful Money of Connecticut payable at the different Periods annexd, put into my hands by a Mr: Thomas Forsey now at New London as a Security, which he says I can & desires I would, convert into Bills of Exchange that are now drawing by your Treasurer for the Parliment's Grant of Sixty Two. If Bills as he says are to be obtain'd for the useless Paper I should take it as a favour, if you would engage me that Value Principal, with what Interest may be due when the Bills are deliver'd & I will send the Money whenever it's wanted to you.

Dated 12th May 1763 payable 1st May 1765 .£180.—.—

4 March 1762 payable 4 March 1767 . 128. 5.—

26 March 1761 payable 26 Ditto 1766 . 11.10.—

£319.15. 0

Per Post

New York 14th July 1764

JAMES NAPIER ESQ:

MY DEAR SIR

Dont blame me, Abeel has not yet finished the Account of the Medicine Money, I could remit the greatest part indeed, but that would make two pieces of work of it, which I would willingly avoid, as the Publick I beleive can bear a short delay of a Hospital Transaction without ruin.

I sent you the Sales of the Medicines 3d Inst: by Capt: Berton, likewise Gen. Gages Warrant to pay Capt: Ourry £25.14 this Currancy for Money advanced by him at Fort Bedford for the Sick, with the Account & Vouchers, which I ventur'd to obey in your behalf, supposing all right. I sent you also a summary State of your own Account leaving a Ballance of £28.4.6 Currancy which I desird you to call on or send to Mr: Franks for. Coll: Young will no doubt abominate the Lawyers miserable oppressive Bills, & no Wonder; but by experience they have been found worse at Home, which a Body would have thought impossible.

Nothing new from Bradstreet. People say he is very ailing & Sir William been obligd to return home from the Effects of his old Wound, the Ball having settled in some tender part, the Knee I beleive. Coll: Bouquet has got the whole Staff with him, Colonels Robertson & Reade, Commissary Leake, Major Small & all. Woe betide the Indians. My regards to all friends, not one Letter have I by the May Mail, nor do I write one now but this to you, which I have fairly finish'd. Adieu

We are shipping off poor Lizzy in a Vessel to Dublin, she sails to morrow, no transport or other Vessel offer'd to take her & she was grown impatient. This will bring her pretty near her own home.

Per the Cumberland Packet

New York 14th July 1764

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

I am a Debtor for your favours of 20th February & 13th April. Mr: Porter I hope may be no looser by his interposition in favour of a friend who does not seem to have deserv'd it. I have settled with the Metamorphos'd Chaplain ¹⁴⁰ for his Arrears as far as Mr: Calcraft has accompted for them, but he says there must be more due, pursuant to the inclosd Sketch of an Account which he desires me to transmit to you. Mr: Calcraft treats him comically enough, about the £54 stopt for Mr: Mortier. In Sixty he did draw a Bill on Mr: Calcraft which I indors'd, the Man being in distress & out of Credit, but to prevent it's coming back, Mr: Mortier took an Assignment of his Arrears for £54 & desir'd Mr: Calcraft at my Instance to pay the Bill, instead of doing so he protests the Bill, obliges the poor Man to pay for it out of the Sale of his Commission & still transferrs the Value to Mr: Mortiers Credit, as if he had paid it, which is odd enough. Mr: Mortier however did him immediate Justice and re-embours'd him here. The Wine Sir Harry Seton sent me got here at last tho' very lately, it was an immense time a coming, I had quite given it over.

At last after a shamefull Space of time wasted no body knows how, I send you a List of the forfeitures to Greenwich Hospital on the Prize Le Centaur taken by his Majestys Ship Nightingale in June 1756, with Mr: Cruger our Mayors & my Deposition annex'd to it, before the Chief Justice. The Account Sales pass'd thro' many hands, Lord Loudon Gov: Pownall, Coll: Young, Mr: McAdam with near twenty other supernumerarys were on board the Nightingale, took their Shares & gave regular discharges as the rest did, for the respective proportions of £31.11.10²/₃ a Common Dividend. If a total List of the Crew should be wanted it is lodgd at the Navy Board by Capt: Campbell himself, who is now at Home,

¹⁴⁰ Rev. Michael Houdin.

& inclos'd I send you a Letter & List from himself to shew the Number & Names of the Delinquents are right.

What is to be done with Joseph Mason's Share you will consider, he did not I beleive forfeit it by dying, as it was an involuntary Act. I must beg you will settle the whole for me as you think right, taking a proper discharge. Exchange is 85 per Ct: at which I drew several Bills this day on the New Contractors, & the Money Agents are constantly drawing at that rate, but it will immediately advance if they think fit to take the Lead, there being a great run for Bills within this few days, at that Exchange, the whole £447.18.9 $\frac{2}{3}$ York Money amounts to £[blank] I can recollect nothing else but to subscribe myself

Mr: Cruger the Mayor was the Person who receivd all the Money and kept the Accounts.

Per the Cumberland packet

New York 9th August 1764

JAMES NAPIER ESQ:

MY DEAR SIR

Wellcome to London, but you paid pretty well for it, as long a State of probation & sufferings would have carry'd a poor sinner thro Purgatory, however all is well that ends well. Your friends were very glad to hear of your safe Arrival at last, & particularly One who has receiv'd so many Instances of your good Will & kindness. Coll: Amherst's Affair was very mortifying to us, we have been grumbling about it ever since, but never fear all will come right in the end, I dont mean the end of all things. My hearty respects to him, I hope the Madeira pleas'd, we could not get better. Yours lyes hitherto safe, & our Spirits are arrivd from the West Indies, about a hundred Gallons of it, One half shall wait your Commands, with some Madeira I have committed to the Improvement of old time.

The familys of Greenwich & West Chester are well & return you their sincere regards. I paid a Visit to the lat-

ter on the Accident that happened to the Branch on your side the Water, they receivd it very properly, the old Gentlemen tho could not help now & then to throw up an Ejaculation from the Gizzard. My Girl is extremely obligd to you for your good wishes & favourable Opinion of her. I am afraid the latter is higher than she has a Claim to. Now for Business, George in his growling way, will tell you every thing respecting politicks material or immaterial in this Hemisphere, the inclosd Letter from old Barr, all that is doing or like to be done in the Wilderness with the Savages. The Account, what Money I have received from Abeel for the Hospital, & how G: Gages Warrant Coll: Burton's Bill for £150 Sterling & Delancey & Watts' on the Contractors for £741.18.8 Sterling repays it. I would not have made the last at so long a Sight, but it could not well be avoided. Our Draught is rather premature & it is meant as a Counterballance, the Money Gentry told me they did not draw, if that be the Case Exchange will rise, 'tis very brisk in the Cant Term at 85 per Ct: Sir Harry Seton & you oblige me both much in your care of my Law Claim on Coll: Young, 'tis an ungrateful Task to sollicit Money for the Wages of the Law, but it was his own doing, not mine. Mine was a meer Act of good Will, purely disinterested. Mr: Allen not got Home yet, we expect him daily, & Mr: Elliot our Collector. No body hears from Mr. Monckton, my respects to him & to all friends, you know them as well as I do. Pray order me to be sent the Journal of the House of Commons last Sessions & Mr: Monckton's Tryal, if they 'ant too voluminous. I have wrote by every Conveyance, first by Jacobson, then the Harriot Packet, afterwards the Hallifax, the Ship York, & last of all by the Cumberland Packet, which added to this will do pretty well & leaves me nothing else that I can recollect but to subscribe myself with unfeigned regard, Dear Sir

Abeel gave me the sale of some Books inclosd, & £4.11.9 for the Produce of them, nothing else receiv'd for you.

Per Doctor Monro

New York 11th August 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

On the 9th June I wrote you by the Hallifax Packet, on the 30th by Berton. I am since to thank you for your favour of 8th of the same Month by the Hyde Packet,¹⁴¹ none of the Merchant Ships arivd, Mr: Allen Mr: Elliot &ca: all away yet.

Is it really meant you should not Issue beyond Albany. I dont see at all in the Contract nor that you have authority to demand Certificates either there or here as Provisions move up from the Deposits, but suppose you do get them, & those Provisions have not lain in Store Six Months, how do you Warrant them for the limited time, after the Certificates are granted. The Copy of the Contract you have sent us wants these explanations but it wants something more material to, a date, without which it signifys no more than Eyes or Legs to a Dead Man. Gamble whom we thought allways & still think the ablest, the most spirited Man in your Service, seems to have Charg'd you rather too long & rather too much, considering our Agreement, however if you can do him a kind Office by suffering his Account to stand, I beleive it will be a benevolent Action & well bestowed. Allicock here we expressly fixt to 25th March, his year being up & all the Business of any Consequence finishd, for tho' your Engagment expird 5th Nov: it was an attentive Task to wind up the Bottoms & puzzeld us more than it hardly ever did, while the Contract had a being.

Mr: C——y has hinted that the Irish Barrels do not answer the Spirit of the new Contract, they have not strength & substance enough to bear the usage they must inevitably meet with from a Land Transportation, to do him Justice he has allways been as obliging as his duty would permit him to be, we shall take an opportunity of speaking to him & of coming to an Ecclaircissement, but however that ends, I would advise that more care be

¹⁴¹ The *Lord Hyde* packet boat, Capt. Norris Goddard. *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, Aug. 16, 1764.

taken of the Construction of these weak Vessels than generally there is; to save wood the Stave itself is cut too thin, & then all the Hoops upon Earth whether Wood or Iron will not keep them tight, a Chime breaks, a Stave by the Weight of two or three Tier stowd on each other or by a slight abuse, gets dislocated, driving then only makes it worse, there is not Matter either to bear rough Usage or to work upon when disordered, this allways has & constantly will cost you a great deal of Money.

By this time you will have had many Samples of our worthy friend Napier. We wish there was a Bridge across the Atlantick, we should not then despair of a Vissit, or an Interview at some half way House, but while the Sea is troubled with Waves & Storms, we are apprehensive our friend wont let it trouble him without an absolute necessity. I have allready mentiond that the Salarys of your Clerks are very handsome, but Syme had such a superior Allowance to them all, that it has workd up a kind of jealous dissatisfaction, tho' pretty well smotherd too, that otherwise would never had the least existence. General Abercromby was Syme's friend & brought it about, & Mr: Kilby to soften Allicocke made him a present when the Contract expird he says of £200 Sterling, such a Contract you'll say could bear it, I think so too, otherwise a half or less might have done, he certainly has a good deal of extra-official trouble, this being the reservoir of all the Streams of Business, & the Spring too that feeds many of them. I have much more trouble with what I may properly call the Business of others, than what really appertains to ourselves, but in an entangled way. Excuse my triffling I am only thinking to a friend. However in sober truth I will tell you, that your new Business shall be under better regulations than ever the old was, or well could be, it stood grafted in a Critical Season upon an old Stock with Branches that could not well be lopd off, which is not now so much the Case, tho it must be allowd Experience in this Business is a material Qualification. I am Dear Sir

Per the Hyde Packet

New York 11th August 1764

MR. JOHN ABERDEIN,
at MR. JAM. MOUATTS, GROCER,
New Bond Street, London

SIR

Upon the Receipt of your Letter of 4th June I sent Mr. Stewart about the Town to find out the best Madeira, he has pitch'd upon some that is pretty good. It shall be shipt by the first proper Conveyance. The price will be high about £62.10 Currency beside Casing. The Insurance we shall make here too, the Freight & Dutys will fall to your share. When you have try'd this Experiment, if you propose to go on I will recommend a Correspondent to you or assist any one you shall choose, for my own part I deal little in Wines or any thing else at present, but I sho'd be glad allways to assist, or do a good office to, any of General Amherst's family. My respects wait upon him & upon the Colonel. I am

The Bond is not paid but is safe enough.

Per the Hyde Packet

New York 11th August 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

My last were by the Ship York, Capt. Berton of 30th June & 3 July. I am still without any of your favours, but my good old friend tells me you are well which I am glad to hear. Another Correspondent says it is reported you have directions to repair to or quit the Government. The first we sho'd all like, but 'tis probable the old Gentleman woud like neither as equally fatal to his reign. He resides entirely in the Country, but at the Instance of some of the Members, who are incens'd at what they have done & are to do at Home, as well as (unreasonably I think) with their Agent for speaking too plain truth to them, he is to meet the Assembly on 4th Sept. next.

Nothing that I can recollect else is doing or to be done. If I have forgot the Papers will tell you. Colonel Goodwin has them. I have recd. from his Honor another Moity of a Quarters Salary, Ending 1st June last. He tells me the Seizures are determin'd in favour of the Governors. My sincere Compliments to Sir Harry, Mr. Porter, Gates & all friends. I write Napier & remain allways Dear Sir

If The Government dont settle a Line between New Hampshire & this Colony there will be rare work soon. 4 people are now in Goal at Albany. What is this same New Lord a doing, he seems to be busy about Nothing but paper Money. Mr. Allen, Elliot, not arriv'd.

Per the Hyde packet

New York 11th August 1764

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

The Hyde Packet some days ago brought me a Copy of your favour of 7th June which is the only one I am indebed for since I wrote you 14th Ult: by the Cumberland Packet, when I troubled you with the necessary Papers for settling an old shamefull Affair with Greenwyck Hospital, respecting the Nightingale Capt: Campbell's Prize Le Centaur. Immediatly upon the receipt of your Letter I paid a Visit to Mr: Delanceys family in the Country & communicated to them in as soft a manner as I was able the Accident that happened to Peter, they behavd very properly on the occasion & desir'd me to return a thousand thanks to you for the friendly part you had acted in it. I wish our young Folks who go Home for their Studys may not attend the dirty Coffee Houses and idle expensive Vaux Halls &ca: too much to accomplish what they are sent for. Most of them that I see have furnishd their Eyes pretty well, but the poor Brain is as naked as ever. I should be glad to know what General Monckton determines about the Government, he is very tender & may be easily teazd to resign any thing, & so

reserv'd he knows not how to solicit for any thing. The Grey Headed Gentleman on this side the Water is fortune's favourite in his old days, but I suppose whichever of the two Steps Mr: Monckton takes, determines his reign. Mr: Dessbrosses has desired a Bill for you of £40.9 Sterling which I have given him of this date on yourself, be pleased to charge me with it. Mr: Delancey put £200 Currency into my hands to be remitted for his Son Peter a few days ago, but I have not yet met with a Bill, by the next Conveyance it shall be sent in my own or some other good Draught. In the mean time I remain with great truth

Per the Hyde Packet

New York 11th August 1764

JAMES NAPIER ESQ:

DEAR SIR

I wrote you two days ago by Munro, who embarked in Gouverneurs Brigantine for Bristoll, & expects to pick you up at Bath. Inclos'd was a Letter from Barr who had got the length of Niagara. A small Sales of your Books from Abeel, who put £4.11.9 into my hands with it, & an Hospital Account with the remittance, of which this hands you a Copy.

N. B. The rest related to Ald: Lawrences¹⁴² Death, the Rich Widows, Le W. from the Synagogue, Girl at Mortiers, & his not writing to O.

Per the Hyde Packet

New York 14th August 1764

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

I find Mr: Howell sent my last of 7th July from Philadelphia per the Jenny Capt: Barclay with a Cask of

¹⁴² John Lawrence, alderman of the Dock Ward of the City of N. Y., died Aug. 5, 1764. *N. Y. Mercury*, Aug. 6, 1764; *Minutes of Common Council*, VI, 383.

Hams amounting to £9.9.9. that Money. By a Letter from Mr: Gibbs of 30th June, he tells me that he was not displeased with the Appearance of his Cavalry, if upon a Sight of them you should choose some of the same kind, I believe the Man I employd would do his utmost Endeavours to provide you a pair or two equally good, & what relates to myself I should undertake with a great deal of pleasure, the only stumbling Block that lyes in my way is a diffidence of giving satisfaction in an Animal that depends so much upon Tast & is lyable to such a variety of Exceptions. The last Letters from the Captain were dated at Oswego. You shall hear from him he says, when he arrives at Niagara. Sir William & Coll: Bradstreet were both there by our latest Accounts. Inclosd is a Letter for you the Person & Place from whence it comes both unknown to Dear Sir

Mr: Monckton well 9th June, but under unfashionable Auspices with regard to party.

inclos'd to D. Franks forwarded by the pompey

New York 14th August 1764

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

I have your favours to acknowledge of 17th April 13th June & 9th July. Your Conduct relating to the poor Wretch Edmonds is entirely unexceptionable, had that of some others been as much so, he would not have provd a Derelict in a strange Country without Necessarys & without friends, meerly for being pledgd for the Conveniency & Advantage of others. I apprehend you mistake the State of the Little Molly at Martinique settled by Shea Smith & Campbell the referrees, they make the Owners Goods Valued at £136.4, the freight £300, the Vessel £230, in all £666.4, pay one Quarter of the Ramson, for that Quarter you paid £126, as the Underwriters only insur'd the Vessel, according to that proportion they would

have to pay but a trifle more than one third part of that Sum, which would be between Forty & Fifty Pounds, the Award gave us at 18 per Ct: £90, which is more than I expected on that footing. What I contended for was a total loss & the Underwriters to have the Benefit of the Sale of the Vessel, but the Referrees could not be brought to that as you'll see by their Award. I wrote them a long Letter, they differd with me in opinion, said the Vessel arrivd at her destind Port, deliverd her Cargo & savd her Freight, & that whatever Expence attended it, the Vessel Cargo & Freight ought to bear in their respective proportions, & so they determind it, which puts it now out of my power to pursue the Matter any farther, but if you will please to recollect, before I would even submit to these Terms, & deliver up the Policey I sent you a Copy of the Award to have your opinion upon it & you left it to me to settle it in the best manner I could without Law, which confin'd me to the determination of the referrees, for I could not in decency appeal from their Judgment as it is contrary to all Practice & besides would be endless as one Appeal eternally begets another. And had we thrown ourselves into Expensive endless Law, we should have appeard with an ill Grace, having the Award of people in Commerce against us, to be offerd to a Jury of the same profession, for which reason it is invariably lookd upon as a point of Justice & propriety to submit to the referrees, or why leave it to them at all, the Looser is seldom content or satisfyd. Upon the whole Sir I can assure you more I could not have done for the best friend on Earth than I did for you, the Event has not answerd either my expectations or wishes, but it is not in my power with Character to do any more & I must rest satisfyd with the Turn things have taken. One Comfort remains the difference is not very considerable as Matters stand, whether the Freight is included or excluded from the Charge of Ransom. I am with wishes for your better Success another time,

inclos'd to D. Franks forwarded by the pompey

New York 18th Sept: 1764

MESSRS: GEORGE & JOHN RIDDELL

Virginia

GENTLEMEN

I am favoured with yours of 4th Ult: & shall be satisfyd to embark with you in the Wheat Scheme for Madeira on the Terms you & the Gentlemen of that place judge adviseable, but 3/9 per Bushel Virginia Currency seems to be a swingeing price in these times of profound Peace & stagnate Commerce. Another Clog is the counfounded heavy Dutys on Wines, which will amount to one fifth part of the Value of the Commodity. It has sold here from Twenty five Pounds to Forty the Pipe of a Hundred & Twenty Gallons which is a poor return for such high pried Cargos out, & such cutting Dutys in. I have several very good Pipes of near two years old in my Cellar I bought for Forty Pounds, better & older than they have lately Shipt me from Madeira at Twenty Nine Pounds odd Sterling, loaded with every Charge attending the Transportation & Importation. To avoid the Duty laid by Act of Parliament, more Wine has been thrown in here of late than ever was known which will of course require some time to ease the Market & make it feel its usual drain. I am

As I feard all the Corn by Modie is heated & spoilt. Great precautions are necessary in shipping Grain in bulk.

Per Capt. Philips

New York 11th Sept: 1764

MR: JOHN ABERDEIN

SIR

I wrote you 11th August by the Hyde Packet acknowledging the Receipt of your Letter of 4th June. This is the first Conveyance that has offered to transport the Wine which I hope will answer your purpose, it is as good & as cheap as Money could buy it. Stewart whom I take to be

a very honest Man took great pains to find out the best. New Wines may be purchased very low, even down to Forty Pounds the Pipe, but these I apprehend did not come within your meaning. I have taken care that no Charges are made, but what were necessary to guard the Liquor, the Casing to be sure is some expence & enhances the Freight 10/ per Pipe, but still we thought it an adviseable precaution. Mr: Allicocke will draw upon you for the Value, his account is all right I have examind it and am

If you continue this Business you may write a Line to Stewart every now & then, he is a good Taster. Allicocke I take to be an honest body, or Mr. McAdam no doubt will serve you if you choose it, he had no fit Wines Stewart told me or I sho'd have apply'd to him.

Per Brigantine Cornelia & Harriot packet

Sept. 22 My regards to Coll. Amherst I have bespoke the Pippins & Birds & shall write him soon if not by this Conveyance.

Per the Harriot packet.

New York 11th Sept: 1764

MR: THOMAS PENINGTON & SON

GENTLEMEN

By Direction of Mr: James Neilson I send you for his use Delancey & Watts' Bill on Sir Sam: Fludyer, Bart: Adam Drummond & Moses Franks Esquires of this date for £200 Sterling at Forty days Sight & remain

Per Brigantine Cornelia & Harriot packet & Capt. Brigstock

New York 11th Sept: 1764

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

My last was of 11th August by the Hyde Packet to which I referr. Inclos'd is Delancey & Watts' Bill on Sir

Sam: Fludyer Adam Drummond & Moses Franks for £110 Sterling for the use of Mr: Peter Delancey the Elder of this date. Mr: Sibson lately deliver'd me your favour of 6th June I will very readily give him any assistance in my power to collect his Deceasd Brothers Debts, which I should not imagine from his Station to be very considerable & should a Lawyer be wanting he shall be recommended to a proper one. the remittance will be the easiest Task, he shall be furnish'd with such Bills as may be depended on, if Effects do but offer to purchase them. Joseph Allicocke has shipt by my Order Six Pipes of Madeira on Account of John Aberdein late G: Amherst's Gentleman or Steward & has drawn upon him for the Value £212 Sterling or thereabouts in favour of John Crawly, which Bill I must beg you will take up upon my Account if any Accident should prevent the Payment, tho I cannot think any will. Crawleys Correspondent has directions to offer it to You. I am

I don't know how it happens but there seems a strange Sympathy between your Ministry & your Stocks.

Per Capt. Brigstock

New York 11th Sept. 1764

JAMES NAPIER ESQ.

(Abstract)

Inclos'd Doctor Barr's Indian Treaty. Mention'd my Visit to Mr. Allen. Our Conversation on things here and at Home. Gov. H——ns Complaint in his N——. Jno. Inglis arriv'd. the Ind. Treaty not lik'd at H.Q. The reasons, one hand the Olive, tother the Dart. All well at Tavern, No Oyster Shop, Mon——f on the point of wedlock with P. L.¹⁴³ None of his black list paid. Advis'd him to write to Coll: Robertson. Synagogue well.

Per Brigantine Cornelia

¹⁴³ Major Thomas Moncrieffe, of the 55th Regt., was married on Wednesday evening, Oct. 10, 1764, to Mary (Polly) Livingston, daughter of Robert J. Livingston. *N. Y. Mercury*, Oct. 15, 1764. Their marriage license was dated Oct. 9, 1764. Tucker, *N. Y. Marriage Licenses*, (Albany, N. Y., 1860).

New York 22d Sept: 1764

COLL: TULIKINS

45 Regt. London

DEAR SIR

Capt. Mitchell desires we would transmit to you which we now do, on Account of Capt: Will: Hall the last Fifty Pounds Sterling for Ensign Graham's purchase of the Lieutenancy. Graham's first Bill on Coll: Christie was you know for £150 Sterling in favour of Capt: Mitchell the latter Fifty that you settled here was in favour of Capt: Hall in lieu of which the inclosd Bill drawn by Delancey & Watts on Sir Sam: Fludyer Bart: Adam Drummond & Moses Franks for £50 Sterling is substituted.

I can tell you nothing New. We seem by our Motions to act offensively against the Savages but by our patience in Treating & Suffering we are rather on the passive Side. 'tis a hellish Warfare that seems to puzzle every Body. I am

Per the Harriot packet.

New York 22d Sept: 1764

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

I was a day or two ago favoured with yours of 7th July inclosing my Account which I shall soon examine & till then remain Sir

Per Harriot packet

New York 23 Sept. 1764

JOSIAH HARDY ESQ.

(Abstract)

Acknowledg'd his Letters of 14th January & 8th June, reed. by the same Vessel brought our Collector.¹⁴⁴ Gave

¹⁴⁴ Andrew Elliot, Collector of Customs at N. Y., arrived at N. Y. on Tuesday, Aug. 14, 1764. *N. Y. Mercury*, Aug. 20, 1764.

me pleasure to hear both Mrs. H. & he were in so fair a Way one of a G——t tother of an Heir. Mr. B—— superseded, his numerous family, Jersy the Hot Bed of political Purgations from the Gov. down to a petty Custom H. officer. The risque of holding a post in such a trying climate.

The expence of the Indian Warr some hundred thousands. Ours between thirty & forty “which we sho’d have been *Oeconomists* enough to have reserv’d for *Internal Taxes* when they are laid at Home, instead of being such Prodigals as to throw it away for the publick good.” I had Visited our friend Mr. Allen.

Sir William made one Treaty with the Indians, Coll. Bradstreet another, a French Man & an Indian a Match at keeping a Treaty. The French taking three Vessels, Turks Islands & shod carry off Mons. D’Ons from L. to compleat the Farce. Mentiond the Capture of Messrs. Crugers Vessel & desird his & Sir Charles’ Assistance to Mr. Charles’s solicitations, who was furnish’d with Affidavits &c: If these Violences are not check’d they must in the End bring on a rupture, as they heretofore did with the Spaniard. Barons to prove himself dead by being Content, as no man Enjoys that happiness on this Side the Grave. Freight of the Bed &c: by the Polly, Winne, £1.7.2. I coud not pay but referr’d it to him. Due Enquiry made into Robert his mans Conduct with regard to the theft, but nothing found.

Per the Harriot packet

New York 22d Sept: 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

On the 11th Ult: I did myself the pleasure of paying you my respects by the Hyde Packet. I am since favoured with yours of 14th July per the Harriot Packet, but prior to the Receipt of it I had paid a Visit to our friend Allen

& got some Leaves out of his political Volume, among the rest the Attempt his Lordship made upon you, which I was glad to find you had parryd so well, but I dont find either from your Letter or from Coll: Vaughan the same encouragement of your coming over again to the Goverment that I got out of our friends, Budget he seemd to be thoroughly convined of it, as indeed he generally adopts with great Zeal the Circumstanc he likes and wishes to happen. The old Gentleman took lately high pet here at the Assemblys Address which it must be ownd was rather ill digested. Both Address & Answer you will see in the Journal of the House, had not the Council interposd the Breach would have run much higher, and probably a Dissolution which followd they were of Opinion would only have added fuel to Fire in the uneasy temper of Mind the Province is, his Answer softned as it was, they think severe enough & I beleive will make reprisals when an Opportunity offers. I have receiv'd no Money on your Account since my last, when another Payment is made which probably must be soon the Ballance I have in my hands shall be remitted. I thank you for paying Coll: Spital my Debt and heartily congratulate him on his promotion, I was going to say may he long enjoy it, but I dont know whether it would be gratefull to keep a Man down that chooses to be climbing. Your friends are all well & remember you with the greatest respect. The Mayor & his Brother have lately sufferd by the French which I am desird to mention to you & to beg you would countenance Mr: Charles if it be necessary, to whom they have sent their Proofs &ca: I cannot doubt but their Vessel & Cargo was taken very unjustly as they have declard it on Oath, & it certainly would be wise to Nip these freedoms in the Bud, least a repetition should forcibly bring on a rupture, as it did heretofore with the Spaniard. Men will complain when they are injur'd & Numbers must be heard. These restless People have lately by force dispossessd us of Turks Islands too, the greatest resources the Colonys have for Salt, without the least Ceremony, after being in posses-

sion of them they tell me half a Century & more. These are notable Instances of a Cordial Affectionate Peace. My Compliments to Sir Harry Seton. I receivd & would answer his kind Letter by Coll: Vaughan, but by the tenor of it am doubtfull whether mine would find him at Home. The Coll: no doubt informs you that he embarks to Morrow for Niagara & both tells you & will tell you, what Indian News there is. Coll: Bradstreet has been Treating at Presq'Isle, but I beleive his Conduct is not approv'd at Head Quarters. Bouquet goes on, so do the Savages scalping & butchering poor innocent defenceless people. The more we experience this Vile Warfare the more perplexd & burthensom we find it, the Enemy are by Land what the Algerines are by Sea, a kind of People that must be paid, not to rob & cut your Throats. Pollard gave me your Letter with his Note, times are so dull I was oblig'd to lend him Money to pay his Freight. He is going he tells me with Coll: Vaughan Sutler to your & his Regt: he says he will come & secure your Debt before he goes. I shall refuse no Money he offers, nor neglect any mild Steps to secure the Debt. I hope he is honest, & I imagine all will be well. I write to Napier. My regards to all the family & beleive me with great truth. Our Mr. Sample has all the Papers.

Per the Harriot Packet

New York 22d September 1764

JAMES NAPIER ESQ.

New Bond Street [London]

Acknowledg'd the recpt of his of 13th July by the Harriot packet—speaking of the Obligations of Gratitude ownd them to be on our side, ballanc'd accounts & wish'd where ever his Lot was cast, according to the Scripture phraise, it might be in fair Ground.

Coll. Maitland deliver'd his 10,000 Acres of Paper, proper Steps sho'd be taken, O. in the Country, was I so cram'd with Earthy Contentions, I sho'd even hate

the juice of the Grape (which was saying a great deal) because it came from the Ground. Lands about Katts-kill not clear. Scotts Men's sharp look out, not an acre but claimd by Indian or Patentee. They talk of getting C—— clipt but it will be difficult, Expensive & tedious, whilst our Constitution allows the Law such a full Scope. The Indian Story of the Bear & the Tree, Napier's Soliloquy Lord have Mercy &c: Thank him for his Care of my Demand on Coll: Young. My Kinsman J. R.'s health, Scotch Air, Edinburg &c: Wine shall be sent & apples by Davis, who is not ariv'd, when he returns. Sir H. S.'s Bett with C. Hint about Young P. D. when an opportunity offerd. Reflection on our young Gentry who go Home. K. henpeck'd, his System overset. Regards to all friends, no half way Inn to meet & be jolly at. Wrote 11th past & sent Barr's Indian Treaty. A Wish they would bury their Animositys with Lord Bath. Think a little of the publick good, not think of us, for when they did it was only to Squeeze us. The old Man & his Assembly jarring, on Account of the Address, not thoroughly reconcil'd. Mr. Monckton has the Papers, all well from Dan to Beersheba. Comm. L¹⁴⁵ marry'd.

Per the Harriot packet

New York 2 Oct: 1764

MESSRS: SMITH & NUTT

GENTLEMEN

As I believe it will be the least Trouble to you, & my Friends Messrs: Will: & Jacob Walton & Company want some Money in Carrolina I beg if it is not otherwise disposed of, you will pay to them or their Order the small Ballance whatever it be, that remains due on my account & you will much oblige

Per Capt. Schermerhorn ¹⁴⁶

¹⁴⁵ Robert Leake, commissary general, was married on Tuesday, Sept. 18, 1764, to Mrs. Anne Bancker, widow of Christopher Bancker. *N. Y. Mercury*, Sept. 24, 1764.

¹⁴⁶ John Schermerhorn, captain of the sloop *Sally*, for South Carolina. *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, Aug. 30, Oct. 4, 1764.

New York 11th October 1764

MESSRS: LASSELLES CLARKE & DALING
GENTLEMEN

A day or two ago by Capt: Green I receivd your favour of 16th June inclosing my Account dated so far back as 30th April which I shall run over at a little leisure. Smith is lately dead & from the best information I can get has not left a Shilling behind him. Some triffling Estate there is in right of the Wife, which she reservd in her own power for the slender Support of herself & Children. Mr: Freeman's Land may rise in Value, but I apprehend not soon, such a Variety of Grants are going forward in the different Colonys both New & Old, In this the reduc'd Officers cannot find a Sufficiency clearly Vacant to make good the Bounty of the Crown to them by his Majestys late Proclamation. And such a Profusion of Land Holders as the Army itself creates, entirely ignorant of Husbandry, & both unable & indispos'd to improve their property, must greatly increase the Number of Sellers & of course damp the Price. Pray be so kind as to give me a Minute of my Stock in the Funds collected in one View that I may compare it with mine & see that I am right. I am allways

Per Capt. Davis

New York 11th October 1764

JAMES NAPIER ESQ:

DEAR SIR

I empty'd my Budget so thoroughly by the Harriot Packet 22d Ult: that out of common modesty I must confine myself to a narrow Compass now. Your favours however of 21st July & 11th August must be duely acknowledged. I need say nothing more of your Hospital Affairs, as they are off my hands by the Account & Remittance sent you, if Ourry is d—— for his tardiness I cant help it. Not a Shilling is paid of your Memoran-

dums, I dun incessantly, Stevens says he cannot settle with Coll: Robertson I have pressd them both to put an end to the Matter out of regard to you, but you know how these things are, had they been private Accounts I could have manag'd them more to your satisfaction & mine, but it dont depend on me.

I have mentioned the Hospital Staff to G: Gage, he says that he has wrote to the S. of W. about it, but can get no Answer to that or any thing else. Barr is with Coll: Bradstreet his Letter is gone to him with the Generals Dispatches. I have deliverd your Message to Coll: Maitland. Coll: Young's Money will be wellcome come when it will. We are too awkward & too sullen to apply for Offices that go so much against the Grain, when we are a little more broke to the Yoke we shall be more docile. A thousand of your Acquaintance go Home in this Ship who will tell you every thing that I can & much more, except how truely I remain

I have wrote to Sir Will: to help us about your Land; 2 Quarter Casks Wine 4 Barrel pipins, 1 for G.M.; 2 more for Coll. Amherst. The Birds will follow. Franklin &ca: turnd out. Whether Coll. Barré recd. my Letter 24 May.

Per Capt. Davis

Wrote 13th by the Hallifax packet, mention'd writing & sending Wine Apples & Hatts, to him, Coll. Amherst & Gen. Monckton; mentiond Gen. G. writing to the S. of W. about the Hospital. Franklin &c: thrown out.

New York 11th October 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

My last Letter was a very long One of 11th August by the Hyde Packet. I have since yours to thank you for of 27th July 2d and 9th August. the Clock by Jacobson is safe arrivd & Landed. The Original it's true of my Letter of 30th June had not the Blank filld up you was to pay my friend Napier, but the Copy had £28.4.6 Currency,

you took it for granted perhaps the Copy must have all the Defect's of the Original, but here is an exception you see.

I dont wonder you cannot see thro' the Confusion of the Philadelphia Department for my Life I never could, & have heard both Sides till I have been tyrd. If the General is wrong I am persuaded 'tis an Error of Judgment. I have got them to write him a Letter, he has answerd it he tells me, of course you will have it sent to you, he says they mention Facts he knows nothing of, that he never receivd any Directions from the Treasury, that he call'd upon them to fullfill the Agreement with General Amherst, which they declind, that he postpon'd the Supplys to the last Moment in hopes of a Contract coming from Home & that the only Step he had to take, was the Step he did take, without favour or partiality, his hands I am firmly persuaded are clean & his Mind upright, if he has been mistaken it proceeds from a too great diffidence of his own Judgment which is a very good one but in talking to him I cannot discover he has, this very day have we gone over the thing from the Beginning to the End. One of the Agents from Philadelphia must come here with all their Proofs & then we may possibly set all right, which we shall never otherwise do at this distance, but entre'Nous, I have told you before, Your Tools are blunt the Stuff is bad. You need not take any Notice of what I write you thus freely, I would live quiet in this world if I could. Would your Agents have listned to Advice and taken a third Person at first, as was proposd to them, Skillfull & Cleaver in the Business, it would have savd them an infinite deal of trouble & you a great deal of Money, but that is now too late.

Then follows the Account of L. Albermarls Oppressions, how we had mention'd it to our friends at home but all were deaf, at last we had empower'd Mr. Allen, he substituted Mr. Barclay, the Dutys prepaid, the great difference of price still to be sought for, "if justice could be heard, where power & Wealth prevail."

desird him to remember to enquire for little Baird,

whose Bill I had endors'd, return'd protested. mentiond his being appointed Comptroller of the Customs at Antigo, then concluded, Sir

Sent Coll. Vaughan's Bill for £20. Mention'd the Act of parliament how inconveniently it operated on our intercourse with the Jersys.

Per Capt. Davis

New York 11th October 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

If Offices are as harmless as the Sea I may venture to referr you to my last of 22d Sept: by the Harriot Packet. I have acknowledgd your favour by Pollard, who is since gone with Coll: Vaughan but in so much hurry that he has not done any thing towards the discharge of your Debt, still I hope & beleive it will be soon, as he would never forfeit your friendship, nor put himself under the Collonels Patronage if he meant otherwise, knowing your Connections.

He has carry'd William Adams tells me a considerable Adventure with him; some Goods he sold here & said he would order the Money into my hands when due. I am now to thank you for your favour of 24th July. His L—— took unwearyd pains indeed to make a G—— vacant it's pitty he would not take as much to mend a bad H——, but dont let Friendship excite me to speak Treason. G. Gage will order the Cloathing to be deliverd to me, but they will sell for little or nothing, however we will at least attempt a Sale. Montgomeries went so low as 7/6 Currancy a Coat, could you not find some old stingy Colonel who owns a Regiment in America, that would disguise his Men with them to save half a Crown a Head, this would do nicely & what signifys the Colour of a Lappell in a Wood, Green is the most natural of any. Major Gorham is one of the Commissioners sure enough for settling our Boundarys, nor one of the worst

neither, when such a distant scatter'd Tribe will assemble together God knows. No body hears from Sir James the sooner the Order comes the better for the Lands, they are granting away so lavishly at Home that in order to make room N: Hampshire is to be shov'd back it seems to Connecticut River, the Old Gentleman plumes himself much upon this, as owing to his information & discernment, he may probably upon this encouragment take a touch at the Massachusetts too, but there he will have a tougher Bone to pick, a Charter is stubborn. Not an Acre of Land has been granted but to reduced Officers since his Majestys Proclamation & many of them cannot find a Spot free from Indian or Patentees Claim. New Hampshire must bring them up. General Gage will no doubt let you know his resolutions about Greenwich. Oliver wants it much for his friend D. Johnson when you have done with it. I have lately receivd no Money on your Account nor paid any but the Gardiners Quarter & to the Printer 36/. Davis has the Two Hatts the Cost £5.13. The Madeira softens of course, but not so much as it would have done had you not tinn'd it up so securely.

Now Mr: A. has got his Mandamus he will not qualify, as he says he is going Home soon. We cannot make a Council of Five to pass Laws & the Assembly setting, the old Judge, Oliver, Mr: Reade & myself the only Members in Town. If they continue to appoint as they have done, the Publick Business must stand still. What can Mr: Clarke keep his Seat for. My regards to all friends & beleive me ever

One of the Several officers going in this Ship shall have your papers in charge. tis Major Duncan

Per Capt. Davis

New York 13th Oct. 1764

ADAM DRUMMOND Esq:

Golden Square [London]

Mention'd my design of writing when I sent my Compliments to him thro' Mr. Franks. His Letter wrote as

soon as he was fixt in the Contract never reachd us. His other of 13th Aug. I then answer'd got here three days ago by the ordinance Ship, shew'd it not to the General, but to Coll. R—— who lookt grave, but promis'd to answer it curcumstantially. He & Commissary L. the only people concern'd in this business, his abilitys much superior & will weigh accordingly. If any unfair measures pursud no belief in Man. The G.'s hands & Heart clear, but uninform'd from home, he has sent the T[reasur]y the whole of his conduct in that Affair of Pensilvania. I shall send for Inglis with all his Authoritys. Mr. Drummonds friends here generally well. Lieut. Gov. DeLancey's Death an irrecoverable Loss. Then my Letter concludes Sir

Per the Hallifax packet

New York 11th October 1764

MESSRS: DAVID BARCLAY & SONS

SIRS

We have your favour of 27th July to acknowledge. The return of the Inward Dutys to the Havannah we are content you have taken, as others did, tho to keep their hands in there has been a little stealing even in that. The Outward Dutys on the Sugars Mr: Kennion may, nay must Stop, if it be so directed, tho if we had him here, we should be willing to dispute that Point, & the much weightier one added to it, regarding the Price of our Cargo, which we apprehend no Authority can justly warrant, & as he it seems was the Instrument made use of to do the dirty Work, he of course as well as his Superiors is accountable for every illegal Step they have taken. We approve however of your Judgment in not attempting a Suit at our single Expencc, if the Struggle wo'd be too difficult & chargeable, had the Oppression been extended to ourselves alone, we would have venturd any thing for releif, but it would not be equally agreeable

to fight an expensive Battle for others who have too much meanness to enter into the Engagment themselves, that Obstacle however now seems to be removd. A Mr: Fell and a Capt: Bedlow ¹⁴⁷ go Home in Capt: Davis with an extensive power to prosecute, they Both resided as Factors at the Havannah while this shamefull Scene was acting, & will be able Personally to prove what to the Scandal of the Publick, we have all so much reason to complain of. As Mr: Kennion has our Account in his hands by which it will appear we are his Debtors £177.3.7½ this Currancy on the Adventure of Sugar per Pompey Capt: Colgan, whose Owners among a Thousand others, he has so handsomely treated, it will not be necessary for us to transmit the Copys. At first he talk'd high about this Matter, but as soon as he receivd our Letter dated 27th January 1763 of which you have a Copy, he was pleasd to send a Counter Order to his Factor, forbidding him to receive the Ballance & so it has rested ever since, till the Return of Duty you mention. The £112.17.7 in your hands may remain there till we see some End or other to out farther Pursuits in this unexampled Affair. We are very respectfully

Per Capt. Davis & Capt. Clarke

New York 22d October 1764

WILLIAM PETERS ESQ:

SIR

Your Letter to me of 13th found poor Weyman in Goal at your Suit, which I was very sorry for, as it was destroying a diligent sober Member of the Community, upon whom depended a helpless family. I have interfered myself in order to save him if possible from ruin & shall remit the Money as soon as I get it from the Lawyers,

¹⁴⁷ John Fell and William Bedlow sailed from N. Y. Oct. 12, 1764, in the ship *Edward*, Capt. Davis. Five British officers, whose names are given, were also passengers. Weyman's *N. Y. Gazette*, Oct. 15, 1764; *N. Y. Mercury*, Oct. 15, 1764.

pursuant to your Directions. I have a Letter from my friend Napier at Scarborough 4th Sept: he says your Brother & Miss Graham were both there, but neither of them very well. I am

New York 24th October 1764

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

By Mr: Temple ¹⁴⁸ I was favoured with yours of 5th Instant. Capt: Mackay carryd with him four Affidavits of some Serjeants, Corporals & Soldiers proving that he issued by Order, whole instead of two thirds Allowance which will greatly reduce tho' not entirely annihilate the Demand the Crown has on him, these Affidavits I have prevaild on Gen. Gage to admit in his favour & Mr: Allicocke, Clark of the Victualling Office has long ago wrote for them to Captain Mackay but was answerd by Capt: Lowell that Capt: Mackay was at Sea, as soon as he returnd they should be sent. If they had been sent, the Affair should have long ago been ended, but I have postpond it, hoping to be furnishd with them, out of regard to the poor Man, notwithstanding several requisitions from the Commissary to discharge my Note, which I shall be obligd to do soon, entirely as he demands, if they are neglected to be sent. The whole will amount to above Fifty Pounds at a rough Estimate as the Market at present is. When this is done your Account shall be finally closd. The Draught to Allicock for £36.3.3 Law. Money I find regularly enterd in my Books, it is an Omission if not incerted in my Account. I find Mr: Allicock has wrote a Second Letter to Mr: Lowell but can get neither the Papers requird nor an Answer. I shall not be able to stave off the Payment of the whole Quantity of deficient Provisions long, conformable to my Note, if the Affidavits are not sent. I am allways

Per Capt. Sherriffe

¹⁴⁸ The arrival from Boston of John Temple, Surveyor General of Customs, is noted in *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, Nov. 1, 1764.

New York 28th Oct. 1764

(Abstract)

JAMES NAPIER ESQ.

DEAR SIR

My last were of 11th by Davis & 13th per the Hallifax packet, the Wine & Apples with the first. G. G. wrote to the S. of W. about the Hospital.

I recd. yours of 4th Sept. from Scarborough. Where we shall get good Land God knows, the Province is so ransack'd & cull'd. We are now searching beyond the Twenty Mile Line from Hudson's to Connecticut River. I have an answer from Sir William, he knows of no particular Spot, but expresses great readiness to assist us. Write to Oliver, your dependence must be on him. You know I abominate Land pursuits & am besides entirely unqualifyd for such a purpose, however my Mite is allways ready where your Interest calls. Coll. R. says they are preparing to pay your Jersey Demands, the Trifle of the 28th Mr. Maturin has long promis'd to discharge, the Rhode Island small matter seems farthest off, the C. however engages to Stop it, if their billeting money is ever settled. Inclos'd is a Letter from old Barr, he differs widely from Hd. Qrs. & from many others who think the C. impos'd upon. B[ou]q[ue]t is gone on from Fort Pitt. Your friends all well & allways mindfull of you. My respects to mine & believe me faithfully Yours.

I am much indebted to you for all your trouble about Coll. Youngs affairs, tis the Devil to have to do with a Lawyer. We have recd. & shall by the packet answer G. Moncktons Letters by the September packet. Madam Susan ¹⁴⁹ is here.

per the [blank] Capt. Clarke ¹⁵⁰ Via Bristoll

¹⁴⁹ Lady Susanna (Fox) O'Brien.

¹⁵⁰ John Clarke, captain of the brigantine *Minerva*, cleared from N. Y. for Bristol, England. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Nov. 1, 1764.

New York 4th Nov: 1764

MESSRS: CHARLES & DAVID WILLIAMS
GENTLEMEN

We have repeatedly begd you would finish the long depending Adventure in your hands per Capt: Williams. And Mr: Watts has desird you would be so kind as to let him know if Charles Baird is returnd to the Islands, he formerly was in Mr: Martin's Service but is now reported to be appointed Comptroller of the Customs at Antigua. If he should be arrivd pray ask him what Steps he has taken to re-embourse me the Bill I endorsd for him & have so long ago paid with 20 per Ct: Damages, the Consequence of its being Protested. Mr: Watts likewise desird you would let him know where Messrs: Maxwell & Udny were to be addressd as it was upon their Credit and Recommendation he got acquainted with Mr: Baird and indors'd his dishonourd Bill. We are

J. W. for self & B. Robinson.

Per Cap. Bellfour ¹⁵¹

New York 5th Nov: 1764

ADAM DRUMMOND ESQ:

DEAR SIR

I receivd your favour of 10th Sept: by the Packet relating to your Contract, but I dont beleive it will be in my power to improve any of the Hints you give me, as I have no Idea of the Matter in Question being determind on this side the Water, for a variety of reasons it would be too tedious, & possibly too impertinent, to give you. Coll: Robertson has receivd your Letter & will answer it, he is very able to serve you, & things must be in a very bad way when he cannot. You need fear no jockeying from the General, he is not that kind of Man, if the Q. M. particularly, & the Commissary throw no

¹⁵¹ Jeremiah Balfour, captain of the brigantine *Inflexible*, bound for Curaçao. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Nov. 1, 1764.

difficultys in the way, your Affairs will go smooth enough, but I dont beleive the Philadelphia Department is well understood at Home, the difference at present subsisting will probably shew it, when the reasons come to be considered on all sides. When your Agents get here I shall inculcate the Hints you give, but as I have allready said, I beleive they will (at least for the present) be ineffectual. By the Hallifax Packet 13th Ult: I answerd your favour of 13th August, the one preceeding wrote at the time your Contract commenced I never receivd. Upon the whole have a little patience & after this first flurry is over, every thing will go on well enough. The Change of Property & Management so quick in this extensive Desert where no previous Steps are taken, will ever be attended with some perplexity at first, but will come right at last.

(The remaining part of this Letter is an Abstract)

And now for the poor unhappy Lady ¹⁵² who I am afraid will never come right. She may be assur'd of every friendly office out of tenderness to her situation, & respect to her family. But the outrageous precedent to a Mans family of Girls just rising into Life, is a Burlesque on all Duty, obedience or delicacy. The more noble the worse. The scheme of settling in the Country as roman-tick as her own Conduct. It will be difficult to find a Spot of that Size any where but among the Savages or in the Wilderness. The reduc'd officers fruitless search, like Noah's Dove not able to find a Spot on which to rest. Report of breaking one or more great patents. The Justice of it when many bona fide purchassers are proprietors of them. How exceptionable on such an Occasion as this, & some worse that are hinted, especially in these sore times. My impartiality having no Lands

Per Capt. Jacobson

¹⁵² Lady Susanna Fox, eldest daughter of the first Earl of Ilchester, married April 7, 1764. William O'Brien, an actor. *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. of N. Y.*, VII, 742; *Burke's Peerage*; *Grenville Papers*, II, 447.

New York 6th Nov: 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

My last was 11th Oct: by Davis. I then acknowledgd your Letters to 9th Aug: but am since favoured with the One posterior of 8th Sept:, still upon the Subject of your ill understood Engagment. I have since the receipt of it waited upon the General to know what could be done or what were his directions from Treasury respecting these vexatious Transactions, which would not suffer a Person to enjoy any Peace of Mind, they were so terribly altercated & differently expounded. He answerd that he did not know what could be done but to send the whole process Home to the Treasury, as they intimate he should, & leave their Lordships & the Contractors to settle it conformable to their own Meaning & Intentions & this he should do without favour or partiality, that the Affair was become so perplexd he would not undertake to decide upon anything himself, for he was well assur'd if he did, his Conduct must be disapprovd of by One or Other & therefore he was determin'd to avoid all farther dispute, by referring the Decision to those who must know their own meaning best. This will at least releive us from the disagreeable Situation of being charg'd with partiality & I hope may have the same Effect on you, as there will be two & two fairly pitted on each side, to fight their own Battle. The World would imagine by this keen look out among Men of such enormous fortunes, about One particle of a Contract, that the Contract itself must be equal at least to One of the Golden Mines of the Indies. As soon as I receivd your Letters & the others by the Packet, before I knew the Generals resolutions, I wrote to Philadelphia to let them know, it would be proper for Mr: Plumsted & Mr: Inglis to settle this Point about the Loaves & the Fishes, that your Brother David ought to be considerd as Neutral, because take which side he would upon ever so fair Principles his Conduct might be censur'd. What their wise heads have determind I dont know, nor indeed know one Step

they have taken or intended to take in this delicate Affair, which indeed is of very little Consequence either one way or tother, now the Matter is taken out of their hands. You quite mistake the General in suspecting him byass'd to any relation or any thing whatever, but what he honestly thinks the publick good, if there has been design or intrigue it belongs as you justly intimate to another Quarter, his Hands & Heart too are clean, a diffidence of himself is I beleive his greatest weakness. Good God how different from his predecessor in that respect, whose hands too were never even suspected to be foul'd. Your Folks late Letters from Philadelphia have given great umbrage, the G. expressly told me himself he woud not answer them. I have given them the Hint.

Gen. Amherst's Contract as I understand it, cannot be safely carry'd into execution on your side, it includes Carriages which it woud be madness to undertake in a State of Warr with the Savages & to carry Provisions a hundred or two Miles back from Ph: when they grow upon the Spot where they are wanted, woud be equally absurd, so that a new, or more properly an interior Contract must be the thing.

N. B. The rest relates to Mr. D.'s recommendation of L. S. O.¹⁵³ & then concludes with its being a rainy day, had led me on to write so much. And inclosing Coll. Vaughans 2d Bill I rem'ain

Per Capt. Jacobson

N. B. Wrote to Josiah Hardy Esq. by this Conveyance, & sent 15 Tulip Trees.

New York 6th Nov. 1764

THE HONORABLE GEN. MONCKTON

I wrote by Davis 11th Oct. & del'd. the News Papers to Ma. Duncan. Have heard nothing still from Pollard. The Gen. must have a little patience. Not recd. the Inde-

¹⁵³ Adam Drummond's recommendation of Lady Susan O'Brien.

pendents Clothing. Mr. A. qualify'd & Mr. Temple,¹⁵⁴ but an ugly Job to be discuss'd. Then mentiond C.'s Case with Forsey¹⁵⁵ & the Lawyers Opinion &ca: about the Appeal with a Severe Opinion of old C.'s¹⁵⁶ Ruling passion & character, Ambition, & Interest all in all, observing strictly Instructions in one Case & making Cobwebs of them in 'tother. Old N. & Knap¹⁵⁷ the only Lawyers woud draw the Writ of Appeal, being thought so unconstitutional, a Jury & Court useless if it took place.

Thank'd him for his Letter by L. S., her folly & the Idleness of the plan in settling here. Lands Scarce, reduc'd officers unsupply'd, who was to have the hundred

¹⁵⁴ Charles Ward Apthorp and John Temple were sworn in as members of the Governor's Council on Oct. 26, 1764. *Calendar Council Minutes*, 466.

¹⁵⁵ The important case of Waddel Cunningham, claiming to be apellant, against Thomas Forsey, involved the interpretation of the 32d instruction from the King to Governor Monckton, relative to appeals in civil cases, from the provincial courts of common law: whether appeals in fact, from verdicts of juries, as well as appeals in law, on writs of error, lay to the Governor and Council, and thence to the King in Privy Council. The case of Forsey against Cunningham, in an action of assault and battery, was tried in the N. Y. Supreme Court in October, 1764, and the jury rendered a verdict of £1,500 and cost against the defendant. The Court decided that the damages were not excessive, and so refused the petition of the absent defendant's representative, Robert Ross Waddel, to appeal the verdict to the Governor and Council. All the judges concurred in the opinion that the King's 32d instruction meant appeal on writ of error only, and the members of the Council agreed, but the Lieutenant Governor, Cadwallader Colden, dissented.

The 32d instruction, the opinions of the judges and the Council, Colden's writs of inhibition and mandamus, and the proceedings, relative to the case, of the Governor's Council, Nov. 19, 1764 through Feb. 6, 1765, were printed in *The N. Y. Gazette or The Weekly Post-Boy*, beginning Jan. 3, 1765, and were also printed in pamphlet form by John Holt, (with the imprint 1764), *The Report of an Action of Assault, Battery and Wounding . . . between Thomas Forsey, Plaintiff, and Waddel Cunningham, Defendant*, (pp. [i]-iv, [1]-68).

Gov. Colden's opinion may be found in his letters, in the *Collections of the N. Y. Hist. Soc. for 1876*, and 1877, and in a pamphlet printed in 1767, entitled *The Conduct of Cadwallader Colden, Esquire, late Lieutenant-Governor of New York: relating to The Judges Commissions, Appeals to the King, and the Stamp-Duty*, which is printed at the end of *N. Y. H. S. Coll. for 1877*.

¹⁵⁶ Cadwallader Colden.

¹⁵⁷ John Coghill Knapp, "late of the Inner Temple, London," opened an office in New York City on June 11, 1764, as a scrivener, register, conveyancer, and attorney at law, and inserted long advertisements in Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, June 14, Sept. 13, 1764; Feb. 14, May 2, 1765 *et al.*

thousand among 'em, N. Hampshire makes an Opening. Wish we had granted more freely to our friends & Countrymen who woud have settled, since it must go so lavishly.

The old Gentleman tother day sent me £746.1.10½ per inclos'd Account for the Moity of a Quarters Salary & sundry Douceurs for patents.¹⁵⁸ I did intend to send a Bill of Exchange but we cannot draw & the money Agents say they do not. By the packet on Sunday I hope to do it. All in a flame at Philadelphia, Franklin ¹⁵⁹ gone and Hamilton ¹⁶⁰ going. I sho'd recommend one Ship. Tell Napier I wrote to him 28th Ult. & Coll. Amherst the Byrds not ready, when they are I shall pay my respects to him.

Per Capt. Jacobson

New York 9th Nov: 1764

THE HONORABLE GEN: MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

Inclosd is Gov: Fitch's Bill on Richard Jackson for £255.10.5 Sterling at 85 per Ct: dated Norwalk 19th October at Thirty Days Sight amounting to £472.14.3 Currancy with which I have chargd your Account and remain allways

I wrote you a long confusd piece of Business the 6th Instant by Capt: Jacobson

Per Chambers ¹⁶¹ Via Liverpoole

¹⁵⁸ The detailed account, and John Watts's receipt, dated Oct. 30, 1764, are printed in the *Colden Papers*, VI, 367, (*N. Y. H. S. Collections for 1922*).

¹⁵⁹ Benjamin Franklin was appointed by the Pennsylvania Assembly as one of the agents of the Province in Great Britain, on Oct. 26, 1764, and he left Philadelphia on Nov. 7, 1764, to embark for London. *Proc. House of Rep. of Pa.*, (Phila., 1775), V., 383; *Pennsylvania Gazette*, Nov. 1, 8, 1764.

¹⁶⁰ James Hamilton.

¹⁶¹ James Chambers, captain of the ship *Manchester*, cleared from N. Y. for Liverpool. *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, Nov. 8, 1764.

New York 10th Nov: 1764

THE HONORABLE GEN: MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

By Jacobson 6th past I wrote you in great Wrath, till I was out of breath. On Wednesday next the old Gentleman is dragging us into this same constitutional ill understood Appeal. I hope they may bring Knap the Convict¹⁶² to support it, no body else will, Mr: Nicolls I am told declines it. This Instruction I find is not the same as former Governors had, as far down it's thought as Mr: Clinton, Mr: Cosbys we are sure was not. Mr: Clinton's are not to be found. It is supposd to take it's rise with Sir Danvers Osborn, with the 39th which they immediatly took back when they came to cool, Mr: Clinton's representations fomented & drawn by this very old Mischief Maker, had suggested the Colony in a State of Rebellion, because it would not be governd by his meer Will & pleasure, so that this evil Genius is only supporting a Brat engender'd by his own Brain. When Sir Charles Hardy came over the 39th Instruction was quite alterd & so would this 32d have probably been, had it struck the Eye, but as it was only an alteration in part, the same sense was thought to remain & could fairly be inferr'd from it, which made the Appeals, Appeals of Error, not a Tryall De Novo, by which three or four Councillors could overset, the Solemn Determinations of the Supreme Court in point of Fact, tryd by a Jury, which the Law calls the Subjects Peers, & in truth entirely destroy the Use of Jurys & Court too, but as a Nose of Wax. People are extremely incensd & alarmd at it, the old Body was allways dislik'd enough, but now they would preferr Beelzebub himself to him.

The Colony is so chagrind at the Treatment of their Paper Money, considering how dutifully they have obeyd the requisitions of the Crown, that brought it all upon

¹⁶² In Holt's *N. Y. Gazette* for Mar. 7, 1765, are printed excerpts from the *London Gazetteer* and *London Daily Advertiser*, for May and July, 1763, telling of the trial and conviction of John Coghill Knapp for fraud, and his sentence of deportation from England for seven years.

them, that they would not hear of so much as offering the Forty Thousand Pounds Act to the Lieut: Governor, of course it goes on sinking & the Government looses the Fund. You mention Mr: Pens being an Advocate for this Doctrine, the reason is plain, he is an enormous Landholder, too much for any One Subject, and if his Tenants have nothing to tender, Silver & Gold they cannot have, they become in a manner his Slaves, instead of Tenants because they lay at Mercy.

I saw my friend Allen with pleasure & usd all my might to keep him cool, he promis'd it, but I am afraid the Phrensy has seizd him, by the lengths they are running. Franklin will be with you probably e'er this & Hamilton is at his Heels. I got *our House* to order a hundred Dollars to be paid for your Ginger Bread thing in the Fort & to let it remain as an Ornamental Fixture there. What shall I do with the Fine Silver Vessel 'tis Nobodys Pen'north here. I whisperd to Gen: G. but he did not hear. Wont Drury Lane want it, I beleive I must try, or suppose the old F—x¹⁶³ was to make Madam a Present of it towards Housekeeping among the Mohawks. I wish to hear from you about the Cloathing but your Bargain must be conditional, we will try a Sale. To comfort you for this heap of Rubbish, I inclose the second of Gov: Fitch's Bills on Mr: Jackson for £255.10.5 Sterling & Delancey & Watts' on the Contractors, Sir Sam: Fludyer & Partners of this date for £150 Sterling both at 85 per Ct: charged to your Account. I dont know how to deal with Leary I beleive he is as poor as a Sinner need be. My respects to all friends, I dont remember that I am indebted any Letters or Commands except Coll: Amherst's Birds which are not yet ready. The Surveyor General has appointed poor Blundell Land Waiter instead of old Mr: Nicolls who has resign'd in his favour. I dont suppose such a trifling Appointment will reach you, but if it should you know Kitt to be an orderly

¹⁶³ Stephen Fox-Strangeways, Earl of Ilchester, father of Lady Susan O'Brien.

sober fellow, & he makes a fine reverend Bow at Council.
I allways am

I wrote Napier 28th Ult: Via Bristoll, Capt: Legg ¹⁶⁴
of 46th has your Papers & knows more than I do, tho' he
may'nt say half so much.

Per the Cumberland packet

New York 12th Nov: 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

I wrote Mr: Drummond & you particularly at large by
Capt: Jacobson a few days ago. We since have nothing
New, the Post is in, but not a Syllable from Philadelphia.
Your old Gentleman begins to labour in Spirit for want
of some Food of that kind, it is become a part of his
Constitution. Both you & Mr: Drummond I think upon
a more attentive Consideration of the Contract mistake
the Force of it, the Commander in Chief can take no fresh
Meat from any body but the Contractors, should they
demand a Guinea a Pound, he has no other alternative
than to accept or refuse, it's true the Contract says, "the
Price to be paid for the said Fresh Meat shall be settled
& Certifyd by the said Commander in Chief &ca: but it
does not leave him at liberty to apply to any body else.
This the Officers of the Crown see plainly enough & I
dont doubt but they have communicated it to the
Treasury, at least it's natural they should. I hear yet no
Objection against granting Certificates for Provisions
to move from Albany to the Posts & you may be assur'd
we shall start none, but on the other hand take it for
granted as we hope & beleive it is meant.

My Compliments to Capt: Drummond & tell him, if
Jacobson is not arrivd, I have wrote to him

Via Boston & Bristoll per Bensons Sloop

¹⁶⁴ Francis Legge, captain in the 46th Regiment of Foot. Millan's
List of Officers.

New York 24th Nov: 1764

WILLIAM PETERS Esq:

SIR

I have receivd of Mr: Thomas Smith the Attorney who prosecuted Weymans Bond £154.19.3½ principal & Interest. And inclosd is Delancey & Watts Bill for the Value on Sir Samuel Fludyer & Partners being £83.15.3 Sterling at the present Current Exchange of 85 per Ct: One half of the Money I have been obliged to lend the poor Wretch in order to releive him from Goal before his Circumstances became entirely desperate. The other Debt due to your Brother on Account of about Eighty Pounds under prosecution, in the hands of Mr: William Smith, the poor Man begs may be put upon a footing with the rest of his Debts, which he has proposd to pay in three Periods, approv'd by his Creditors here, who judge it in vain to throw him in Goal again, as it will wholly incapacitate him from paying his Debts at all. And he will of course be discharg'd by the insolvent Act made in favour of helpless Debtors. Mr: Smith if you will give him leave will see that justice is done to your Brother, And after what I have said I need not repeat how useless Severity will be, nor how much a poor tottering family stands in need of Commiseration to keep them from entire ruin. I am

Per post

New York 10th Dec: 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

As you had receivd my Letters no farther down than to 11th August by the Hyde Packet, acknowledgd by your favour of 13th Oct: I will recapitulate the Catalogue wrote since not for the importance of them, but to know what becomes of Ones Paper & Wax & if any should go astray to supply the defect, if they chance to contain some Anecdote of your Affairs it may be necessary to

repeat. My next in Order then was 22d Sept: by the Harriot Packet, followd by the 11th Oct: per Davis, the 6th Nov: by Jacobson, the 9th Ditto Via Liverpooles & 10th Ditto by the Cumberland Packet. The Packet sails the day after to Morrow & to morrow is our final hearing about the Interpretation of this same 32d Instruction. You'll remember another Instruction the 40th if I recollect right absolutely forbids the Governor constituting any New Courts. This is constituting a New One with a Wittness, or at least giving an old Carkass of a Court such a power as no Court ought to be possessd of where the Libertys of English Men take place. I told the old Gentleman a Jury was the Bulwark of English Freedom, he coldly answerd & with seeming indifference "that there were no Jurys in Scotland & he did not see but Justice was as well Administer'd as in England." This was a Doctrine tho, that we did not relish or admit at all. 'Tis strange how few of these people have a true sense of Liberty, tho' they generally take enough in conscience when they have power, And upon the same Principles too; give & take. I shall deliver to (not deliverd, see Postscript) who Commands a party of the 55th going Home in this Ship a Large Packet of the Printers Stuff & I shall inclose three or four of Judge Horsemanden's printed Case in a separate Cover which may be made any use of that is proper pray let Coll: Barré have one. It is to be hoped if they do really mean to cram the old Mans Scott's unconstitutional Doctrine upon the Colony, the Parliament may interfere & preserve to it those Libertys they themselves so much revere & for which their forefathers have sacrific'd so much generous Blood. I cant see that our Situation will be one jot better than the most despotick State's in Christendom, if two or three Councillors holding their Seats at pleasure here, can reverse the Facts found by a Jury, & afterwards *their* Determination again be turn'd topsy turvy at Home by a few people holding their Offices at Will, & who have too many Avocations of their own, as constant experience shews us, to enter into the Merrits of our little unaffect-

ing, distant, American Disputes, upon which however the Destruction or Wellfare of Numbers of his Majestys good Subjects depends. On Thursday I shall write to you again & close this Subject with the Opinion of the rest of the Judges, & answer more fully your favour of 13th October. The old Man who has not a Soul to support him but G: Harrison & two or three other such Characters, I have been told thinks to supersede the Chief Justice & our worthy Attorney General, for giving such honest Opinions as the Law directed & they were bound by Oath to do, but what says Hudibras of Oath taking? a great deal too much melancholly truth. God preserve us all, that he may, long & happy you & yours, is the unfeign'd wish of, Dear Sir

Oliver says he sends you Apples or I would do it. Say something about Greenwich. I shall write to my friend Napier by the Packet, not now, tell him evil Communication corrupts good Manners, No bad Company. Upon Second thoughts I shall deliver all the Papers & Dad. Horsmandens Letter to Major Small who goes in the packet with Gen. Gages Dispatches.

Per Capt. Berton

New York 13th December 1764

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

My last was 12th Nov: I must now beg the favour of you as you have got the Matter already in hand, to read, Seal & send the inclosd Letter from Capt: Rutherford to James Baird Esq: & if he will not pay the Bill for a Man he has so warmly recommended, at least let him do me the Justice to let me know where Charles Baird is, that I may take the proper Steps against him. Captain Rutherford who is no incautious Man assures me he would have indorsd five hundred Pounds on Mr: Bairds recommendation & now to protest such a Trifle is very ungenerous. My Letter of 9th June last will shew you

how the Affair is situated. Pray let me have an Answer by the next Packet after this reaches you. I am

Per the Hyde packet

New York 13th Dec: 1764

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you two days ago by Berton. Herewith you'll receive the C[hief] J[ustice's] representations, for Gods sake what will else happen, save him & the poor Attorney General for being honest, Satan should not be so much gratifyd as to triumph in their fall. I told you Pollard was gone to Niagara with Coll: Vaughan to whom he pleasd to write a Letter as I shall do, I cant think under the Coll.'s Patronage any thing can go wrong. Pray let Coll: Amherst know I have paid my respects to him by Berton & sent him his things. And Coll: Barré if you please, that Coll: Robertson just sent me word that he shall pay me this day £243 at 4/8 the Dollar which shan't be long out of his hands. I spoke to the Coll: about yours, which will be forth coming. I dont think from what I hear & see Mr: Charles & the present Folks here will long set their Horses together. Sir Harry Seton & Capt: Stirling I think I may venture to say need not be in the least diffident of the Assistance & good Offices of your & their friends, which seem to imply the same thing. But we abominate the old Ruler & things must labour of course between us. All Confidence is banishd. Pray if the College has any Order for Land to be so kind as to furnish us with a Copy of it, Sir James I beleive writes to nobody.

This disturbance raisd by the old Man must of necessity force out some Gov: or other, or the Colony will get into boiling Water. Ten Councillors now when all assembled, besides Sir William. No Money receivd nor paid for you since my last. My respects to all the family. Major Small has the Papers & Ch. Just.'s Letter &c.

Inclos'd is our 2d Bill on the Contractors for £150 Sterling.

Per the Hyde packet

New York 13th Dec: 1764

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

I am favoured with yours of 11th October with Mr: Hudin the Chaplains Account & a Model or form of an Account to be produced to Gree[n]wich Hospital, before Mr: Maule the acting Person could be authorizd to receive the Money forfeited upon the Nightingale's Prize, Le Centaur. As to the Chaplain I shall send him his Account to examine, if it depends singly upon the Payments said to be made by Moore, Paymaster to the Regiment, the Case is very simple and cannot be well misunderstood. The Account for Greenwich Hospital is transcribing & shall be inclosd if I can get it attested before the Packet sails which will be to Morrow Morning. I have reminded Mr: Cruger our Mayor of the small Ballance in your hands due to the Corporation.

My Brother Delancey has mentiond to me some thoughts he has of purchasing a Proprietary Right in New Jersey advertisd to be sold at Home by one Drummond or Lunden, if you should succeed in the Purchase I will be accountable for any Engagment he may or has enterd into with you for the Purpose.

N. B. Then a Circumstantial Account of Mr. Colden's conduct relating to C.'s appeal.

The Account with Greenwich Hospital is inclosd attested before the Ch: Justice. Exchange still 85 per Ct: I suppose it is not material to a day when the Prize was taken, Lord Loudon, Gov: Pownall & a Number of other Gentlemen were on board, receivd their Prize Money & know it exactly. I have governd myself by the Account Sales which dont specify the day.

Per Major Small

New York 14th December 1764

JAMES NAPIER ESQ:

DEAR SIR

After tying myself heartily with dry unentertaining Business I will fill up the little time I have left with a wellcome relaxation with my friend. John Stevens chose to have the pleasure of remitting your Jersey Demand, which I had no Objection to, so you but got it, he took the Sums from your own Memorandum, but I apprehend he has mistaken Sterling for Currancy in the £6.18.9 due from Mr: Skinner for Jersey Provincials, which I presume is a Hospital Demand at $\frac{4}{8}$ the Dollar. Your Memorandum leaves it doubtfull, a word of Explanation & he will pay the difference. G: Gage has given me a Warrant on the old Beau for £2.11.3 Maturin was to pay for 28th Regt: so there now remains no other Arrears but £5.10.5 due from the Rhode Island Myrmidons, which Coll: Robertson says shall be paid when the Billeting Money is settled, a time perhaps that may never come. I proposd taking the Money & leaving a receipt to Operate against their Demand whenever it appeard, he answerd No, till a Warrant issu'd for the whole my discharge was no Voucher & even then against the Colony itself only, to stop from their Warrant.

I wish I could give you some good Account of your Land, but that is more Oliver's Province than Mine. Land seems to be in very little estimation, but where People get it for nothing. Sir Will: Johnson I have told you could give us no Assistance. We have employed an Albany Surveyor to look out towards N: Hampshire, but there we may be foild again, for Donald Campbell tells us it is expected the Govt: at Home will confirm all Mr: Wentworth's iniquitous Grants, if it does, we shall probably be precluded from that Quarter. Another Opening seemd to offer towards Crown Point & Otter Creek, but a French Man has put in his Claim there & the Board of Trade has forbid old Grey Head to grant within his Limits, which are very extensive & includes Crown Point

itself, One of the very Objects of the War & yet his Claim is call'd reasonable at Home. My Dear friend what is the World come to, has it lost all it's Consistency & Wisdom. Were we to pitch your Tent near Fort Edward as was once proposd, you come both within the Indian & Kayadaroseras Claim, a Patent so call'd, the One would take your Scalp, the other your Estate in Law Suits, both as bad as need be. They are so bountifull at Home that tho' our Governors were Condemn'd for swallowing Gnats, they themselves swallow Camels, immense Orders are diffusd every where to wipe off all kinds of Scores, 'tother day speaking with Croghan the Indian Man, he said (with a vast deal of ease) they had given him an Order for Twenty Thousand Acres in Consideration of his Expences, but he put very little Value upon it. Oliver no doubt will write you more pertinently on the Subject than I can, being his Occupation, but this you may be assur'd, he cannot, nor can any Body, mean to serve you more than I do, as far as it is in my power. Your Liquor in my Custody is all hitherto safe & sound. I am extremely obligd to you for all the trouble you have had with poor Coll: Youngs miserable Suit. The whole Amount was £30.—6½ Sterling at 85 per Ct: £55.11. Currency. The Capt: Robt: Grant you mention to have sent the Votes of the House of Commons by is got astray no such Person came in the Packet. I heartily thank you for them. They will come right at last I dont fear. Coll: Vaughan it was supplyd us with General Monckton's Tryal, Davis brought us None. I suspect the W. Off. has not treated you candidly; notwithstanding what you write to G. G. he has Orders to reduce the H—C¹⁶⁵ and must do it as soon as they all get down, this he told me himself with some Concern.

Do tell Coll: Barré he must defend us against the old Man's Invasion of our Libertys here, he is making French Men of us all, by in a Manner taking away the Effect of Jurys, the thing will appear at Home, we are all to be hand'd, the whole Bench of Judges, the whole Council,

¹⁶⁵ Hospital Corps.

the whole Body of the Law (except John Coghill Knap the Convict) for opposing it. G. M. has some of the Proceedings.

Per the Hyde packet

New York 10th Jan: 1765

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

My last was of 13th Ult: by the Hide Packet. Major Small took Charge of a Letter &ca: from his Honour the Chief Justice, who hopes for your friendship & support in doing what he conscienciously thinks his Duty. The Council have unanimously given their Opinion, that as all the Judges & the whole Body of the Law without one exception (unless Coghill Knap a Transported Convict may be calld an exception) have declar'd that no Appeal by Law can lye upon the whole Merrits of the Cause from the Verdict of a Jury." That his Majesty must intend by his 32d Instruction an Appeal in Error as has been practiced invariably ever since the Colony existed when Appeals were brought. Besides as his Majesty in another Instruction has directed in these strong Words to his Governor "You are to take Care that no Mans Life, Members, Freehold or Goods be taken away or harmd in the said Province otherwise than by establishd & known Laws, not repugnant to, but as much as may be agreeable to the Laws of this Kingdom." The Council could not concieve his Majesty meant to introduce a Practice not known in England & absolutely stripping the whole Colony of the Birth right of every Englishman, a Tryal by his Peers in Matters of Fact, from whence no Appeal can lye, but where there are Errors in the Proceedings. But I shall leave the disagreeable Subject, Marsh¹⁶⁶ the Clerk of Albany & Secretary to Indian Affairs dyd Yesterday, if you have no thoughts of any Body else it would be a most benevolent Action to get it

¹⁶⁶ Witham Marsh. *N. Y. Civil List.*

for a Branch of a most worthy family of this place who once livd in the first rank, but have for some Years past felt a severe reverse of Fortune, the Family I mean is Mr: Moore's & the Persons I would take the Liberty to mention are either Thomas or Stephen. They nor No body else knows I have said One Syllable about them, so that the freedom I have taken brings you not under the least Necessity of so much as hinting the thing unless it be perfectly agreeable to your disposition of aiding the distressd. If it should require some Money I would willingly advance it. They have two Uncles I beleive living in London, One of them Daniel was a Member of the late Parliament & got another of these Brothers a Place in the Custom House. Napier loves doing good, may be he would help.

I should think the Offices had better be divided, let Sir William do as he likes about his Secretary, they have no Connexion, who Mr: Colden will appoint I know not, but most likely one of his own Members. A Son ¹⁶⁷ of his, formerly was Clerk of Albany and dyd. Excuse my freedom & I have done troubling you, at least on this head.

Pollard has sent me two small Bills of about £40. Value on Barnsley which I have sent to him for Payment at Philadelphia. He says he will soon make a handsome remittance. I hope & beleive all is well. Coll: Robertson has paid me £59 Sterling at 4/8 equal to £101.2.10 Currancy. No other Money receivd on your Account.

Inclosd is my Bill on G: Amherst for £46 Sterling drawn by Coll: Amherst's Order for Wine &ca: sent him. Also Coll: Byrds Bill on Bogle & Scott for £175 Sterling. If the latter should be refusd please to return it me protested on my Account I will make the Value good. Coll: Barré's Money I will remit by this Conveyance if time is permitted me otherwise by the next Packet, the Nov: Mail not arrivd, Snow & Sleighing in abundance, more than has been known for this Twenty Years. Be pleasd to tell my friend Napier his Corps is reduced, Barr &

¹⁶⁷ John Colden (1729-1750). *N. Y. Civil List*; E. R. Purple, *The Colden Family*.

Mallet both here. My respects & Compliments to all friends & beleive me ever faithfully

Our old Ruler pretends to be very angry with his Council for a particular he calls Breach of Confidence. The Case is this, He read a long desertation on Law of his own Composing to a publick Audience of a hundred or two people that his prejudice lead him to think was a Notable Performance, for you must know he is persuaded a few Weeks reading will make an old Man of Eighty a greater Adept in Law than the whole Community put together, this he has clearly provd by opposing & even rudely treating, the whole Bench of Judges, his Majestys Attorney General, the whole Council & the whole Body of Law down to the lowest Practitioner except John Coghill Knap the Convict before mentiond, but to my point, After he had done reading tho he had behavd like a professd party thro the whole more than like a Judge he declar'd himself ready to be convinc'd with many other Professions of Candor &ca.; The Council answerd as most of his propositions were points of Law which they did not understand, they hopd he would give them a Copy of his Argument that they might take Advice upon it & either be convinc'd by or refute it. He promis'd & sent them a Copy annex'd to a Letter with another reason added stronger he thought than any he had mentiond but with this Sophistical restriction, that as the Argument he composd were his own private thoughts, he meant them for the Councils private use, tho he had read them with amazing Self Applause to a whole Court (for the Council sat as a Court) of a hundred or two people who had brought away the Substance of every thing he had said. This the Council thought such unfair Childish Treatment & such a restraint as he could have no right to lay, he might as well have sent it to the Pastry Shop especially after his first promise which did not contain it that they took the Advice of the ablest Council in the Law & just answerd his Speech as he had made it before the whole Court. The Truth is there was not one Word of Law or precedent in any of the Propositions he had

advanced tho the Composition altogether read smooth enough & it torturd his Vanity to be thus laid open. We shall send you the whole as soon as it can be transcribd, but like all other Law Matters tis too long. R. Morris writes to Lord Hillsborough & Co: Conway. All we ask is the Justice of being heard before we are condemnd, the good old Gentleman wanted to put it on a footing that we were opposing Prerogative & the Kings Instructions, We answerd no, the point rested upon the true legal Meaning of an Instruction which we had taken as solemn Advice upon as if our Lives & Fortunes were at Stake & more it was out of our power to do, either for his Majestys Service or the conscientious discharge of our own Duty, besides it could not injure his Majestys Service to let things flow a few Months longer in the same Channel they had done ever since the Colony existed.

If the Gentlemen will pay Coll: Byrds Bill at any rate I would not have it returnd, tis ugly work contending with friends about Mammon.

Per Capt. Kid, who has the Papers Votes &c: in his care.

New York 14th January 1764 [*sic for 1765*]

MESSRS: GEORGE & JOHN RIDDELL

GENTLEMEN

I am a Debtor for your favour of 9th November, the Shipping of Grain I imagine must allways end ill, the Commodity itself is not sufficiently prepar'd & dryd & the Shipping too little attended to, to preserve it during the Course of a long Voyage. Money sent hither I beleave must be our last resource. Dollars are 8/, Pistoles 4 dt: 6 Gr: or upwards 29/, Pistareens 19 d:, Good Silver 9/3 per oz. but no Buttons or alloyd Metal among it. Exchange is 85 per Ct: Corn 3/ Oats 2/ to 2/4 Pork 72/6 Corn fed, Wheat about 5/. Thus stands our disadvantageous Situation, now do the best for

Per Capt. Philipson

New York 14th January 1765

COLL: WILL. BYRD, Virginia

DEAR SIR

At last your favour of 12th Nov: has reachd me by the Post & a meer Post & Pillar too he must be, to take two Months to travel from your Neighbourhood. The Bill inclosd me for £175 Sterling on Bogle & Scott is gone Home for acceptance, if they wont smoak your Tobacco, you must smoak them & run upon something more to the purpose. Suppose Indigo, Lead, Iron, & even Silver rather than be idle. The two last must go to England, 'tis the best Market, we ship both from hence & it would cost you near as much to transport Iron here as to Brittain. This a proper Market, for Lead because we import all we use, the Consumption is large & the Price encouraging from £30 to £40 per Ton if fine. If you should have an inclination to direct any this way I will either in Person or by Proxy see that you have justice done you.

N. B. The rest is News & chat

Per Capt. Philipson inclos'd to G. & J. Riddell

New York 19th Jan: 1765

COLL: ISAAC BARRÉ

DEAR SIR

I wrote you in May last the 24th, which I hope fell into no other hands than you own, as it requird the indulgence of a friend to give it a patient reading. Coll: Robertson has paid me £243 Sterling on your Account at 4/8 the Dollar amounting to £416.11.5 Currency the Value I now remit you in Delancey & Watts Bill on Sir Sam: Fludyer & Partners Value £225.3.6 Sterling at 85 per Ct: the Current Exchange amounting to exactly the Sum I receivd. The Coll: when he paid me this Money gave a Memorandum, a Copy of which you have inclosd, the Purport you'll observe is that the Treasury had Issud

£167.10 to the Pay Office for you as Major of Brigade from 24th Jan: to 24 Dec: which you might either receive yourself, or call upon him for the Value, & he would receive it. Madam Ross's Stomach is not yet come to, I have heard she did not like the Mode of doing it, you or I, or perhaps both, were not proper Substitutes for her Husband, for my own part I give up the point. The Coll: I hear has a pretty Estate bequeathd to him, I hope it may make his happy. The last Year you were agitating at Home several Points that affected the Libertys of America, our old Ruler has lately broach'd one here that will strike at the very Root of all our Libertys, if it is meant by the Crown, & intended to be forc'd upon the Colonys as he contends for, which we cant possibly conceive, 'tis so flatly contrary to the very Spirit of the English Government, & against all Law, the point in question is the Interpretation of the 32d Instruction, by which he, with the Council would hear & determine all Appeals upon the whole Merriits of the Cause, from a Verdict of the Jury, & either alter, confirm, or reverse it just as they please. Ever since the Colony existed, upon a similar Instruction, the practice has been to admit Appeals in Error only in imitation of the Mother Country the Facts found by a Jury allways remain. We have consulted the whole Bench & the whole Body of the Law, they all declare there is no other Legal or Constitutional Appeal, we have had the Opinion too of the Lawyers & Judges of some of the Neighbouring Colonys who confirm the Opinion of our Own, still the old Gentleman has dissented & is endeavouring to carry his point at Home, contrary to the Sense of the whole Province, without one Judge, one Councillor, One Lawyer, One Gentleman to support or Countenance him, the Proceedings are long but you shall have them all thro' Mr: Monckton as soon as they can be Copyd for it's proper they should be known, for his Honour is so chagrind at not being able to act the Petty T——t that we are sure he will represent every thing to the Prejudice of his honest Opponents, & of the Colony. So many new things have grown out of the

Controversy that no Letter can contain them, what I have wrote to G: Monckton from time to time I wish you may see. I will mention One Argument in particular his Honour has cruelly advanced to support his System "that these (unconstitutional) Appeals are necessary to keep the Colonys independance, when the Fact is diametrically Opposite, can they be independent while they are dutifully following the Laws of the Mother Country & the Crown appoints every Officer of Government at pleasure to see those Laws carryd into Execution from the Governor down to the lowest Clerk of an insignificant County, surely no, but on the other hand suppose an Instruction to be a Law to the Colonys, they then cease to be dependant on the Mother Country, they are to obey the Will & Pleasure of those who advise or dictate an Instruction & may act by such Law, contrary to the Interest & safety too of the Mother Country. Under good reigns such as the present I grant there may be no danger, but Laws are formd to protect the Subjects Liberty & property when the Scene is changd, which has often heretofore been our unhappy Case & may be again, if Providence thinks fit (for our Sins shall I say) to permit it. The Charter Colonys he says have Appeals, some we are told they have, but the parallel wont hold, these are Prodigys in Government, Connecticut elects from the Governor down to a Constable, the King is not suffer'd to appoint his own Attorney General, it sends Home no Laws for approbation, it's very Assembly is a grand Court, & trys Causes, in such Instances the Subject might be oppressd & trampled upon if there was no releif from without, Massachusets chooses it's Council & Assembly, they likewise try civil Causes; in Philadelphia the Government is in the hands of a Subject who appoints all Officers, they have a mixt kind of a Court, the civil, common & Municipal Law all blended together. No Court of Chancery or superior Jurisdiction to apply to, surely these motly Institutions are not to be compar'd with these Colonys that are immediately under the Government of the Crown & imitate as exactly as possible the Mother

Country in the Execution of her Laws & in the Distribution of Justice, still they have been & will be again pleaded as Examples. I am afraid I have tresspassd too much on your patience if any thing occurs farther it must serve for another Meal, at present if I could flatter myself you are not surfeited, I am sure you must be satisfyd. My respects to Coll: Howe & the few I have the pleasure to know of your Acquaintance. I remain with great truth

Per Capt. Kid & per Harriot packet inclos'd to Mr. Monckton

New York 23d Jan: 1765

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you at large 10th Inst: by a Merchant Ship One Kidd who is still confind in Port by the Ice, he has a Bundle of News Papers &ca: recommended to his Care to send you when he arrives. I have now your favour of 9th Nov: to acknowledge from Sackville Street, where you have pitchd your Tent more stably than it has hitherto been. We are all sorry for it, we were in hopes the next time you struck it, it would have been rais'd among your friends in America, who would have been glad to have found Shelter within the Walls of it, for at present Head Quarters is little seen & less respected, but by a very few who would have gaind Admittance at no other time. Mr: Cruger has receivd Letters from Mr: Charles & thanks you for your Intentions. If our Assembly should meet the old Man again, which God forbid, we shall have pure Work, tis a great doubt whether the Publick Service will go on with any sort of propriety or indeed at all. Your old Servant William Adams tyred of Mr: Hamiltons Service chose to try his hand at an Ordinary or Tavern here, but whether it would not answer or whether he had a mind to grow rich too fast I dont know, but he privately stript his House & is gone of, it's

said to Pensacola leaving his Creditors all in the lurch. I am a little vex'd at the Dog as I got him both his License & his Credit. Misfortunes & Poverty meet with Commiseration & are easily put up with, but sheer Roguery is very odious. Inclosd is my Second Bill on G: Amherst & Coll: Byrds on Bogle & Scott, pray let the latter be accepted, if a little softness will do it, or a little longer time given for Payment, tho its pretty well extended allready. Youll see an Address from the Grand Jury to the Judges on our late Dispute with his Honour. Coll: Bouquet is here, proposes to go Home in the Spring. All is well, your friends heartily wish you so. My respects to Mr: Boone, Coll: Howe, Coll: Amherst, Sir Harry &ca: I am sorry to hear Mr: Porter has been ill. Huzza for Gates, now for tother side the Question. Your Letter went forward to Coll: Vaughan as soon as I receivd it. His Honour Mr: Banyar tells me sends Home to the Board of Trade the whole Proceedings of the late Affair by this Packet. Pray be so kind as to read Seal & Send the inclosd to our friend Barré. I wish he could serve us with his Countryman at the Board of T. People here are very much afraid of L. H———.

Mr: Colden has this Minute paid me £737.11.1 being half of a Quarters Salary, $\frac{1}{2}$ the Art[iller]y Pattent, $\frac{1}{2}$ the Fees of Secretarys Office, & $\frac{1}{2}$ the Fees of Custom House per Account inclosd, remittance shall soon be made.

Per the Harriot packet

New York 25th Jan: 1765

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

This is chiefly to desire you will please to pay the Twelve Hundred Pounds for the purchase Lieut: Stephen Kemble has made of Capt: Henry Gordon's Company in the Royal American Regiment. If Stocks are well up

I am well enough inclin'd to part with as much as will do the Business, but if you apprehend they will mend I must trust to your friendship to advance or get the Money upon Interest & I will repay it how & when it may be agreed upon. Your perplex'd Contract Affairs relative to Philadelphia I hope are come at last to an Issue, they have never been well understood either here or at Home. The Transferr for damag'd Provisions was made by express Agreement with G. Amherst, we sent you Home long ago a Copy of the Conditions. We insisted upon the bad (having lain Six Months) going with the good, the Certificate we dictated ourselves. Mr: C. is very obliging to us, he is weak & vain & therefore should not write. We have expended £200 for Contingencys attending your Contract which I hope you'll approve of 'tis Money fairly & necessarily laid out. God send you all the happiness you wish.

Per the Harriot packet

New York 25th January 1765

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

The Council with their very sincere respects to you, beg that you would be so good as to read, Seal & deliver, or send as you see best, the Inclos'd Letter to Lord Hillsborough. They are very apprehensive of a Misrepresentation of their Conduct, they desire nothing but an impartial relation of the Affair. Nothing has been omitted to set them right if they had been wrong, but the more they enquir'd the more they became confirm'd in their Opinion, besides the whole Body of the Law here, they have been supported by the Opinion of the Chief Justices & the Lawyers of both Philadelphia & New Jersey, greater Testimonys were not to be obtained on this Side of the Water. If you should Converse with Lord Hillsborough on the Subject, which would be a great favour done us,

it would be very satisfactory to me to know his General Sentiments of the Matter in as private a way as you please, by the very first Opportunity or two, & to give you as little trouble as possible, no Matter how short, or let any Body else write. I ever am

Per the Harriot packet

New York 23d Jan. 1765

JAMES NAPIER ESQ.

(Abstract)

New Year, feasting, Sleighing &c.;, Snow very deep. No farther Account of his Land, Barrs & Mallets Letters deliver'd, Hospital reduc'd, paid O[liver] D L[ancey] £12 the Wager with Sir H[enr]y Seton. G. Monckton's Situation disagreeable, he is ill treated & has reason to complain, but being naturally shy & reserv'd, they construe his treatment & his temper both into One & impute the whole to be disgust & resentment. Synagogue well, Angry at the relations at Home for Neglecting their recommendation of Mr. N—p—r. What is the Sessions of Parliament to produce. My familys in particular, & also all his friends constant remembrance of him. Desird him to pay the money he recd. from Coll: Young to G. Monckton.

Per Harriot packet inclos'd to G. Monckton

New York 5th Feb: 1765

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you 10th Jan: by Capt: Kidd & deliverd to his Care the News Papers &ca: the 23d I wrote again & committed the Care of the Papers to a Mr: Wells (two small Bundles) who went Passenger in the Packet, the 25th the Packet being still here, I inclosd you a Letter

from the Council to Lord Hillsborough which I hope you may receive safe, as it is impossible to divine here, what may be brewing at Home in Consequence of this very extraordinary New Step taken by his Honour, far still from being satisfyd he has encouragd another Petition from Ross,¹⁶⁸ Mr: Cunningham's representative praying that as the Council have declared an Appeal from the Verdict & Judgment cannot be brought before them, that they would allow an Appeal to his Majesty in Council, to suspend Execution till it is there determined, & assign Council to bring it properly before his Majesty. The Council have not come to any resolution on this point, but they will certainly be ready & willing to give him every Advantage, the Duty of their Office or the Laws of the Land will admit of.¹⁶⁹ Pollard has remitted me £256.15 Currency more on your Account from Niagara which makes near three Hundred in all. I wrote to Coll: Vaughan to remind him with tenderness of his Duty, but to beg at any rate that he would see the thing finishd to your satisfaction. Inclos'd is De Lancey & Watts' Bill on Sir Sam. Fludyer Bart: and Partners for £200 Sterling No. 98 & Will: Forman's on the Board of Ordinance for £300, No. 18, both of this date & 85 per Ct. Exchange, the last I am told is unexceptionable or I sho'd not have paid the Money for it. Bills are not plenty. I beleive it is allmost time to render you another reckoning that you may see how your Finances stand. My regards to the family & to all friends & beleive me allways

Per Capt. Richards ¹⁷⁰

¹⁶⁸ Robert Ross Waddel.

¹⁶⁹ At their meeting on Feb. 6, 1765, to consider the petition of Robert Ross Waddel as legal representative of Waddel Cunningham, the Council decided, the Lieut. Governor dissenting, that he could have copies of the proceedings and opinions, but as no such appeal lay to the Governor and Council, they were unauthorized to direct further upon the petition. *The Report of an Action of Assault . . . between Forsey and Cunningham*, 68; Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Feb. 21, 1765.

¹⁷⁰ William Richards, captain of the snow *Amelia*, for London. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Feb. 7, 1765.

New York 17th Feb: 1765

RIGHT HONORABLE LORD ROLLO

SIR

Immediatly upon the Receipt of your favour of 13th October, surprizd to find that Mr: Livingston had not sent your Papers, I desird him to deliver them to me to transmit, at first he seem'd disposd to do it, but upon a second Consideration said that he had some Demand for the Expences attending them & that he would by this very Conveyance lodge them in the hands of his own Correspondents Messrs: Neat & Pego of London to be deliverd to your Lordship's Order, which your Lordship may be assur'd I will take Care to see that he performs. As to Law my Lord it would be an endless Piece of Business & therefore both for your Convenience & for Dispatch, I should preferr any other Method that would put you in possession of such necessary Papers sooner.

I am extremely glad to hear your Lordship is recovering your health so fast may it soon be perfect & lasting. Your Acquaintance here are I think much as you left them, this is a Climate that does not work any great or sudden alterations. I am respectfully

Per Capt. Richards

New York 11th Feb: 1765

MESSRS: SCOTT PRINGLE CHEAP & Co:

GENTLEMEN

It is so long since I have had an Opportunity of writing to you that I beleive I remain a Debtor for your favours of 25th May, 19th June & 31st July. My Wines I hope may answer the purpose tho' upon examination I fear two or three of the Pipes are rather too light for this Climate, that by it's extremes is very trying to Liquor, for this Six Weeks past we have been in Greenland, the Ground coverd near three feet with Snow, a few Months again will hurry us into the torrid Zone.

It is some Comfort in the entire Loss by Moodie, that if the Sea or Carelessness or to whatever cause it is owing, had not destroyd the Food it would have yeilded very little, which brings the Matter allmost to the same Point, tho' it does not exonerate these slovenly Virginians for so ill preserving & so negligently Shipping their Grain as scarcely ever to get well to Market. I shall wait for the Sales of my Flour & remain

New York 18th February 1765

JOHN ERVING ESQ:

SIR

Time & Patience have brought our Solicitation to a happy Issue, which nothing else could have done, the General has at last remitted the whole demand the Crown had on your unwary Master, which gives me pleasure as I allways thought his Case a hard One. By the Minutes of your Account annexd you will observe a Ballance in your favour of £50.13.4 this Currency which waits your Commands, if Mr: Apthorp wants Money here a Bill on me will answer the purpose, if not the least intimation of your Mind shall be comply'd with in any other way you choose. I beleive it will be unnecessary to answer Mr: Lowels Letter particularly, as gaining our Point is the Pith of the Matter; you will be pleasd to make my excuse to him. I am with great truth

Per Post

New York 18th February 1765

COLL: VAUGHAN ¹⁷¹

DEAR SIR

I sent you a few Weeks ago a Letter from G: Monckton with an intimation from myself respecting a Debt due from Pollard, with whom I find he is a good deal

¹⁷¹ Hon. John Vaughan, Lieut. Colonel of 46th Regt. of Foot. *Mil-lan's Army Lists*.

disobligd, as no doubt his Letter will tell you. He has sent me three Notes of Pollard, for £400, £155 & £51.3.1 Sterling of which Pollard has remitted from Niagara Schlossers Bill for £18.16 & Christies for £20 on Barnsly & Simpson's on Forman for £256.15 all Currency which go but a little way into so large a Debt.

What one friend should do for another I am sure you will do for yours, for my own part I must be passive in it, as the Debtor is far enough out of my reach, however inclosd are a few Lines to him by way of Memento, which you will be so kind as to close & send him. Pray let Capt: Clarke know that Care shall be taken of his Letters sent me 3d Jan: this Moment come to hand, & let me ask the favour of you to send him One under this Cover.

Inclosd to Gamble

New York 18th February 1765

MR: EDWARD POLLARD

SIR

I have sent Mr: Schlossers Bill for £18.16 & Mr: Christies for £20 to Capt: Barnsly for Payment he is at Philadelphia. Mr: Forman has paid Mr: Simpsons on him for £256.15. You will hear from Coll: Vaughan that your friend & Benefactor G: Monckton is not at all pleasd with you Conduct to him, think seriously before you loose such a Support by your own inattention. He has sent me another Note of yours to him for £155 Sterling & one to John Smith for £51.3.1 Sterling these claim your Attention. I wish you well and am

Inclosd to Gamble

New York 23d February 1765

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you last by a Capt: Richards to London, and inclosd the first of two Setts of Bills, the one drawn by

Delancey & Watts on the Contractors for £200 Sterling the other by Will: Forman on the Board of Ordinance for £300 Sterling. I am not sure I indorsd the latter, the Second of each Sett is inclosd, with the defect corrected if it was committed. In my Letter by the Harriot Packet of 23d January, in my faulty loose way, I mentiond Head Quarters, I hope you understood me, as I meant it *Civil* Head Quarters, Military I should not have made so free with. Your favour of 6th December the Hallifax Packet brought me a few days ago. I immediatly forwarded your Letter & wrote to Coll: Vaughan, as I had done before. The Debtor is in his power to do with him as he pleases. I earnestly wish you may save your Money & Pollard his Credit, he is getting up another Cargo I have been told, but if this Affair should get Air, he is demolish'd. Three remittances I have informd you he has made £20, £18.16 & £256.15 Currency the two first not paid, Barnsley being at Philadelphia. I shall send by some Passenger in this Packet the Papers & the whole proceedings of our disagreeable Controversy with the old Ruler, who I beleive has behavd more willfully, injudiciously, & indecently than ever Man did, there was no occasion on Earth to drive things to such Extremitys, he forced us into the Law by introducing a Performance of his own, flatly repugnant to all Law, there we were obligd to put our own Judgment's into the hands of those who had made the Law their Study & if we have err'd, have err'd as all Men have done & must do in the like Situation. Somebody must come over, we shall never live in peace here again under this old Gentleman.

N. B. then mentiond Mr: N's intended Marriage, his Tast alterd, all young here. should answer his Letter from Bath by next Packet. My regards to all the family, Colonels A. B. H. Gov: B. Sir H., G., &ca. Lawyers publish all, will not rest nor let him rest.

Per the Hallifax packet

New York 24th Feb: 1765

MR: MOSES FRANKS

(abstract)

Receivd his Letter 7th & 8th Dec: Mentiond the time disquiet, & Character every Man must contribute concern'd in Contracts. So many fortunes made, none are thought little Rogues, however all's well that ends well. Mr: D——d Letters not arrivd, to be sure take care that he & Mr: Q. have a perfect understanding. I can reconcile any difference between Davie & the General, the latter mild & well temper'd, not at all malevolent, & conscientiously just. The Contract not clearly drawn, said to be the Boards choice, by that means they become their own Expositors. Our Dispute here with the L. G. his imprudence, willfullness ill treatment of every body concern'd, three times had it in his power & as often distracted the Colony, from whence does it proceed? From a Love of Tyranny for itself, an impatience of Contradiction, an extreme self sufficiency, & an immoderate desire of being thought a great Man at Home. The Case in dispute a very bad one.

Per the Hallifax packet

N. B. wrote John Riddell by this packet address'd to Mr. Streatfield

New York 24th February 1765

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

On the 13th I wrote by the Hyde Packet & inclosd the Account for G[reenwich] Hospital. Major Small who carryd the Generals Dispatches was so good as to take Care of my Letter &ca: And as I then troubled you with the beginning of a Dispute Mr: Colden dragged us into about the legality of an Appeal upon the full Merrits of a Cause from the Verdict & Facts found by a Jury, I have taken the Liberty now to send you the whole proceedings by a Mr: Kelly whom you may probably see upon the

Business I mention'd to you in my last, my Brother Delancey had in View. If the M[inistr]y mean to have a Man to go thro' thick & thin for them, they are exactly fitted here, but the Mischief of it is, he stands in such a Contemptuous odious Light throughout the Province, that he is possess'd of neither Interest or Weight to serve them. Sibson has been gone to Louisbourg some time. I am

Per the Hallifax packet

New York 26th Feb: 1765

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

As the Packet is detained here for a Wind I have prepar'd & inclose your Account Ballance £33.2.5 in my favour. You will please to examine it & let me know if I have committed any Errors. Mr: Kelly of this place has the News Papers in One Bundle & three of the printed proceedings of Forsys Case against Cunningham in another. I could wish Coll: Barré may have a perusal of the latter, much depends on the sense put upon it at Home, nothing Personal is meant, an Extention of the Laws of the Mother Country to the Colony is all that's ask'd or desir'd. If this is deny'd & internal Taxes laid the Atlantick makes the difference between a Freeman & a Slave which God forbid. Every body wishes you would come over, but I am a little heterodox in my faith, if I should be unluckily right, why no direction about Greenwich, would it speak too plain. Come or not come I most sincerely wish you every happiness & remain

Per Capt. Chambers left by the packet

New York 8th March 1765

MESSRS: CHARLES & DAVID WILLIAMS

GENTLEMEN

I was lately favoured with yours of 11th Jan: & have in Consequence of it receivd forty Nine Pounds ten Shillings this Currency from your father for Value paid you on my Account by Mr: Baird in part of the Protested Bill, the Amount & Damages of which is inclosd. Mr: Baird will think it but just I beleive to lodge me the Money here again clear of all Charges, as it is so long ago I was obligd to pay for his honour, without one farthing Benefit or Consideration to myself, however if contrary to my Expectation he insists on paying it at Antigo, Ship me the Value in run or any thing else that may offer better, the Matter is not worth a Dispute. You will oblige me much in settling our old Affairs both jointly with Mr: Robinson & severally with myself; they have stood open quite too long. My Compliments to Mrs: Williams. I am

forwarded by Mr. Williams

New York 8th March 1765

PHILIP GIBBS, ESQ:

SIR

should have paid my respects to you sooner had any thing deserving your Notice occurrd since I receivd your favour of 30th June last. It gives me a singular pleasure to find I have been so successfull in my Endeavours to suit you with a Lott of Horses & the more so, as it is a kind of Service we so seldom succeed in, may they long be of both a Use & a pleasure to you.

With great concern I find by the Papers I have lost my old & much esteemed friend Mr: Clarke,¹⁷² the particulars of his Death I have not heard nor can it be of much Consolation now he is gone, 'tis a Debt we are

¹⁷² Gedney Clarke, Sen.

every Day apaying & happy for us we see not the appointed time to distress us before it comes. I know none of his Family in Barbados to address myself to, but such as are there I beg you will be so good as to make my regards acceptable to them. If any Person should be settling his Affairs I should be thankfull for a State of my Account, he has mine including I beleive every thing but some Triffles last sent, when I know whom to apply to the whole shall be sent complete the difference between us can't be great. I am
Per Capt. Bethell ¹⁷³

New York 16th March 1765

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

The Packet slipt away & left this Letter behind. Nothing receivd or paid for you since. Inclos'd are the thirds of Delancey & Watts Byrds & Formans Bills, which it may be right to send tho the probabilitys lyes against their being wanted. Mr: Colden the Post Master has an Account of Postage against you, to the Value, he says, of about Forty Pounds, must I pay it.

The old Gentleman has of late press'd the Granting of Lands more warmly than usual, under one pretence or another, & has succeeded in some, not to Officers. It is such a Mysterious Business to discover Vacancys, that he as Governor, Surveyor General &ca: has all the information & power too in his own hands, & knows well how to make use of them. The reduc'd Officers complain sadly of unfair Treatment. The Bounty to Non Commission'd Officers & privates is sold for a Song to those who have Interest & Skill to make a Location, so Matters you see go swimmingly, now the rump is uppermost.

Per Capt. Chambers ¹⁷⁴ Via Bristoll

¹⁷³ William Bethell, captain of the ship *Widow's Son*, for Barbados. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Mar. 14, 1765.

¹⁷⁴ William Chambers, captain of the ship *Grace*. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Feb. 28, Mar. 14, 21, 1765.

New York 16th March 1765

MR: THOMAS PENINGTON & SON

GENTLEMEN

My last I observe was 11th Sept. with a £200 Bill for Jam. Neilson which no doubt you receiv'd. Inclos'd is Ben. Harrison's Bill on Sedgley Hillhouse & Randolph for £60 Sterling dated at Virginia 1st Dec. at sixty days sight, which be pleas'd to receive & pass to my Credit. I wish you better luck with it than with the last trifling Bill drawn by Coll. Byrd.

With respect to Logwood I leave my friend Cruger & you to settle the Matter. It is allmost wore out of my mind, yet I could wish some tolerable end was put to it & I dare say you do not wish it a whit less. I am

Per Capt. Chambers, New Grace

New York 30th March 1765

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

I wrote you by the Harriot & the Hallifax Packets the 25th Jan: & 24th Feb: last to which I beg leave to referr you. I shall thank you for my Account once more & if its not too much trouble pray introduce the old obsolete Article of £20 for Cosbys Bill on himself explaind in my Letter of 27 Oct: 1762, twice has this plaguey Article puzzeld me in squaring our Accounts to find out where the difference lay. I beleive the Man owes me a full dozen of Knives & Forks too. Two I orderd & but One came chargd high enough they tell me to include another. But your expert Tradesman I suppose think it no more real harm to outwit a poor American, than an American would an Indian, the gradation is all fair.

Mentiond the recpt. of his Letter of 13 Dec. which I sho'd answer more fully by the next packet, that I could accommodate any difference between the G. & David, the former being of a conciliating Disposition. Our old

R——r plunging deeper & deeper, determind Neither to rest himself nor suffer the Province to rest, nor can they ever rest together again.

Per Capt. Haviland

New York 30 March 1765

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

(abstract) ¹⁷⁵

My last 16th Inst. Mr. Cruger ¹⁷⁶ had the News papers to save Expencc. A Mr. Molison has them in this Ship to be landed at Dover. Inclos'd O. DeLanceys Account ballance paid him £120.19. paid Davenport the Gardener £25. The old Gentleman must have money in his hands, shall give Banyar a hint. The Councils & his h——'s dislike of each other very great. Because they do not approve of Appeals in his way, he will have none at all & has abolish'd the Court of Errors, an old Court. Major Skenes Complaints to Lord Hillsborough. Patent Fees for his 25000 Acres above £700, Governor £312.10, Secretary £100, Sur. Gen. £175 &ca: Government suffering disreputation. Nothing attended to here but accumulation of Money without regard to the Rites or honor of the Crown, while such great pretentions are made at home of supporting those very Rites, so shamefully prostituted. Mr. Allen abus'd in a Philadelphia pamphlet suppos'd to be Gov. F[ranklin]'s. January Mail not arriv'd. My regards to all friends.

Per Capt. Winn

New York 30th March 1765

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

My last was 24th Feb: by a Mr: Kelly who went in the Hallifax Packet. A few days ago I receiv'd your

¹⁷⁵ The original signed letter is printed in its entirety in *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, 4th ser., X, 567-68.

¹⁷⁶ Henry Cruger Jr.

favour of 25th Dec: by the Cornelia Capt: Montgomerie.¹⁷⁷ Whatever may be the Merits or Demerits of our Assemblys Address, Mr: Charle's Delicacy is easily accounted for, & they have long seen it, but the Evil is, the Majority of the House are so narrow minded, they cannot be prevail'd upon to allow a Stipend worth a Persons Acceptance of any Note or Weight, And as for the Provinces sending over somebody fit for the purpose, 'tis impossible, very few are fit, & those too much naild at Home by Family Business to think of stirring for any Temptation, more particularly for such an up Hill Employment as a Colony Agents is like to be. I never saw any of the three Memorials from the Assembly till lately & can't but own I was a little surprizd at them, they were too much hurryd over in a warm fit, & want a good deal of Digestion & Correction, tho' I beleive upon the whole it matters little what they say, as to the intended Effect it will have, the Cure must come from Home by the Manufa[c]turers wanting Employ, that is a Cry that will be heard. Our old Gentleman is hurrying the Colony farther & farther into Confusion, because the Law & Usage of it did not admit general Appeals in the extreme Latitude he would prescribe, he denys sitting in a Court of Errors, that never has been denyd before, & entirely stops the Distribution of Justice in that old, hitherto admitted Channel. Unless another Governor comes out the Lord knows where things will end.

Inclosd is Delancey & Watts' Bill of this Date on Sir Sam: Fludyer & Co: Contractors, for the Use of Peter Delancey Value £105.2.8 Sterling which you will be pleasd to pass to his Credit in an Account he desires you would be so good as to render him, that he may know how the Expences of his Son stand. I am with great respect

All my Accounts you have renderd are found exactly right & settled accordingly.

Per Capt. Haviland

¹⁷⁷ William Montgomery, captain of the brigantine *Cornelia*, for Hull. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, April 4, 1765.

New York 1st April 1765

JAMES NAPIER ESQ:

DEAR SIR

(abstract)

Referr to my Letters of 14th Dec: & 23d Jan: Packets out of Fashion, neither the January or Feb: arrivd. Receivd his Letter of 6th Dec: from Bath, his friends here all well particularly my family, who send him their good wishes. Petition'd for his & the other Gentlemen of the Hospitals Land about 24 Miles from Hudsons River towards N. H[ampshire] & within their Claim, in order to ride the fore Horse if the Crown should revoke Wentworths numerous Grants; should put him to little or no Expencc. Rights to Land offerd so low as One poor Shilling per Acre. The Trade of Lands here a Nostrum in the Adm[inistratio]n confin'd to his H——r & his friends who are making Hay abundantly while the Sun shines, they have the whole Game in their hands. All his things safe in my hands. A late prodigious fall of Snow.

Per Capt. Winne

New York 1st April 1765

MESSRS: LASSELLES CLARK & DALING

GENTLEMEN

I am a Debtor for your favours of 9th July & 7th Dec: I either have or should have answerd the former more punctually. The particular of my Interest in the Stocks is very right, the reducd Annuitys I seem to understand pretty well, do the India Annuitys depend upon the same Principles & what are they worth, they cost me very dear. Were those you sold of the same kind or different, if the same what particular reason for selling a part only, excuse my Awkwardness, as I have trusted allways to the Abilitys of my friends it concernd me little to enquire minutely into Transactions that they could carry on bet-

ter without than with my Assistance. It would be vain for Mr: Freeman to think of parting with his Lands at this juncture, those in the Situation his are would command a very trifling price. As I hinted to you before there are ten Sellers for one Buyer. Some of the reduced Officers have parted with their Rights for a sorry shilling an Acre. I am

Per Capt. Winne

New York 2d April 1765

ADAM DRUMMOND ESQ.

Golden Square

DEAR SIR

(abstract)

Recd. his Letter 29th Nov. Coll. Robertson also recd. his. The Colonels good Will very necessary, glad to hear he was like to succeed at the Treasury. I referr to the Company Letters. This Department good if there was any consumption, but it's a Blank. Lad[y] S. & O. behave unexceptionably, are in a state of Exile, a Question to whom the great change is most strange, she or he.

Per Capt. Winne

New York 4th April 1765

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you a day or two ago by a Ship that sails in Company with this & sent the Prints by one Mr: Molison a passenger.

Pollards Partner a young fellow who got acquainted with him at Sea, lately went from hence to rejoin him with I am told three or four thousand Pounds Value in Goods surely your Demands may be hammerd out of so much Matter or the Deuce is in it, let them look out sharp who come last. I sent your Letter to Coll: Vaughan

& wrote a second time to him to desire he would secure your Debt, as he certainly can, the Debtor being entirely in his power, I can do nothing in a judicial way. No Sherriffe or Constable inhabit that Wilderness, unless it be an Indian Bum, who now & then arrests his Man, but I have wrote to Pollard himself to warn him if Words will do it, into a gratefull sense of his Duty. His remittances I informd you were £256.15, £20 & £18.16. Currency I cant but think you are safe whatever others may be that succeed you. Inclosd is the Sale of your Cloathing the Produce £311.9.8. It has sold low as I told you it would, but better the Vandue Master says than any before it of equal Goodness. The Winter has scarcely broke up yet, we had lately the greatest fall of Snow this Season. Our young female Adventurer & her Consort will think they are got into Greenland. I am yours allways

Per Capt. Haviland

New York 15th April 1765

JAMES NAPIER ESQ:

(abstract)

Acknowledgd his Letters of 12th Jan. 2d & 9th Feb. Davis arriv'd first. My Letter of 28th Oct. still missing, mentiond the Substance of it. Nothing in his information of Smalls & Mallets getting Land at Scokticoke. Mentiond again our taking his Land up 24 M[iles] from Hudsons River towards N. H[ampshire] That the order for the B[oundary] to Con[necticut] River was come over, but not a word of Wentw[orth]'s numerous Grants. Barr going to Survey & take possession. Thank him for the pamphlets. They shall be dispers'd & may have a good effect. The "Regulations" a silly work, writing of little use, the Liquor must fine by fermenting, then you will judge what it is. Never saw the Remonstrance till lately, want much alteration, Angry with Ch——s for not presenting them, but Mr. M——s sanction if he has got it, will go a great way. I Had wrote to Col. Barré 24th May & 19th Jan. Recd. his Letter by the Feb.

packet, with Mr. Allens open. Our dislike of the late Measures. The Supreme Authority in the Legislature acknowledg'd, still hard upon the Colonies to be tax'd unrepresented by those whose Interests it is to throw the burthen from their own Shoulders on others. No Money to carry us thro'. Specie cant stay unless we turn frugal & starve the Manufacturers of G. B. Our Paper Money discredited, for what, because some Colonies had abus'd the use of it, & of their power the same reasoning woud operate against K[ing] L[or]ds & Com[mon]s, against Food &c: Sho'd be glad to give Coll. Barré all the assistance in my power, but its a difficult Task to form a Judgment of such mixt Interests as the Colonys are compos'd of. desire him to remember me to Capt. Riggs. Pay Coll. Youngs Money to Gen Monckton. Mr. Allens late vile Treatment in a pamphlet. Oliver offers him his last Lot of Richards it cost £1400. Mr. Elliot about Pridie's. Collonys unable to bear heavy burthens, their Bones & Sinews not knit, compard to an overgrown Boy. The Nature of our Emissions, the sinking the Security of all Estates R[eal] & P[ersonal]. Concern'd at his loss of health invite him over

Per Cumberland P[acket]

New York 16th April 1765

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

By a Capt: Haviland in a Brig to London I paid my last respects to you, told you that Pollards Partner was gone up with a large Cargo to him which would secure you, that I had sent Coll: Vaughan his Letter & likewise wrote to him a second time & that the Debtor was entirely in his power to do as he pleas'd with him, but I apprehended there could be no occasion. I have since heard nothing farther nor receivd any remittance. I sent you in my last the Sales of your Cloathing amounting to

£311.19.8. In a former of 30th March advisd you I had paid Oliver the Ballance of his Account then inclosd amounting to £120.19 & the Gardiner half a Years Wages £25. Nothing remains to be added about Money Matters. When I send you Bills of Exchange &ca: I shall take for granted all is right, if you dont contradict it.

I am now to thank you for your favour of 9th Feb: by the Packet with the black List of Stamp Dutys, which would have made us stare, but both Davis & Jacobson were got in & had prepar'd us. We are obligd much to Coll: Barré for espousing a derelict Cause, where Power presides Reasons are seldom wanting on one side, or heard on 'tother, change Situations & the Argument would soon turn in our favour, but after all, as our Mother Country is so stout we hope she will be wise & mercifull too, or she will not only make her Children poor & surly, but useless & disaffectionate to herself. Love is more to be depended on than Fear by half.

Abstract. "Mr. Charles' embarrasment with the Colony addresses, which were too warm assuming & tedious, better not presented. I had never seen them till lately. His throwing up his Agency.

The favourable account of the Opposition to the Appeal makes us very happy, it woud distract the Colony in these sore times to be stript of such a glaring characteristick of English Liberty."

April 27. The forgoing was prepard for the last packet, but she was too quick in her Motions, however this will not probably be long after her as she is a much better Vessel. I dont recollect any thing to be added either of Business or intelligence. When the old Man communicates a little more of your Income I shall not forget your remittance, at present, with the Cloathing, I have but a small pittance in hand. We shall be all dispersing soon, his Honour to Spring Hill, Walton to Musketo Cove, Morris to the High Lands, His Lordship to Long Hill, Smith to Orange (he lately has had a Stroke of the Palsy on one side) So that little Business is like to be done this Summer. I am allways Dear Sir

I wrote Napier by the last Packet a wofull long indigested Scrawle. My hearty respects to Coll: Amherst & Mr. Boone. I shall answer their kind Letters by Davis who sails 5th May as he says. Coll: Barré I propose writing to by this Packet. (I have wrote). After I had finished this Letter I receivd a small Packet from Coll: Vaughan for you which I now forward & a Letter for Coll: Howe which you will be pleasd to let him know with my respects. Coll: Vaughan no doubt tells you that he has sent me Orders for Four Hundred Pounds Currency on Pollards Account & will take Care of the whole Debt. This last Cargo gone up will make him very stout for the present. It may be the Business of those who come last perhaps to look about them. Coll. Robinson goes in Davis.

Per the Hyde packet design'd by the Cumberland

New York 27th April 1765

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

On the 30th Ult: I acknowledgd (by Capt: Haviland) your favour of 13th December. I am since indebted for two others of 12th January & 7th February both pretty near at the same time, Davis having so much a better Passage than the Packet. With respect to your Contract I must referr to the Volumes that have been wrote on the Occasion, time & patience will set all right. One half of the Mischief flows from your indigested or designedly ill understood agreement at Home, which nothing but Practice and a little disunion can render intelligible. Davy they tell me is to be here shortly, when he comes we will endeavour to set every thing right that may have been constru'd personal, but my good Friend you will soon have the Game to play at home, Mr. Q. M. embarks in Davis and you may take full Draughts from the fountain Head. My Friend D——d too may try the force of

friendship, *tete et tete*, is not that French. I would rather Mr. Baird discharged the Bill than his pretty Namesake, who I bleive is necessitous enough, however I have apply'd to him and he consents, I suppose he means as he becomes able, but if Mr. Baird interfeers I shall soon drop my Correspondence with him and return any labour'd Pittance he may have muster'd. By the Rates of Labour you seem to intend If I apprehend you right, the Labour of Manufacturers in Linnen or Wolen, not the common Labourers or Mechanicks in other Trades & Arts, Such as Carpenters Joyners &ca: &ca: With respect to the first I dont imagine there is or can be any stated Terms, most Familys during a long idle Winter go thro' most of the Business themselves & Casually employ supernumerarys as their productions may be more or less prosperous & their family of Children or Servants more or less numerous. A Weaver may be paid by the yard as they can agree & then he sticks to his Loom more or less as he may be call'd off by other Avocations. But I dont take this to be the Case in point at all, whatever may be our awkwardness, whatever our Mode, whatever our Expence, we must be content with Quality & Quantity too, if the Colonys by too many restrictions & Burthens are disabled from paying the Mother Country for the Necessarys they want, not to say Luxurys, which seems to be a Period coming on very fast & may force them into Expedients they would never have thought of. Tis Romantick to suppose we can keep Specie on this side the Water when the Ballance is so evidently against us, nor is it the Interest of the Mother Country we should when nothing but parsimony & shifts can effect it, which must of Course affect her Manufactorys. And yet the Use of Paper Money is abolish'd as an Evil, when properly treated, it is the only Medium we have left of Commerce & the only Expedient in an Exigency. Every Man of Estate here abominates the Abuse of Paper Money, because the Consequences fall upon himself, but there is just the same difference in the Use & Abuse of it, as there is in food itself, or in every one necessary Con-

venience or pleasure of Life. If I dont mistake, we shall for a little time, as long as Brittain will give such unlimited Credits, pay off a Notable part of the Ballance against us, by Insolvencys, which is one way of paying Debts. My regards to all the family & beleive

Per the Hyde packet

New York 30th April 1765

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

This day a Month by Capt: Haviland I acknowledgd your favour of 25th Dec: & inclos'd you a Bill for £105.2.8 Sterling for the Use of Mr: Delancey drawn by Delancey & Watts on Sir Sam. Fludyer & Partners, desiring you would be pleas'd to transmit his Account. I hope the Papers I sent may satisfy Mr: Maule, we allways understand the place of Transaction invariably denotes the Species or Currancy of the Country, unless some other is particularly mentiond, the Law understands it so & I hope Mr: Maule may or I must follow another of his dry prescriptions. In the Situation the Colonys are, their Rights depend upon Parliament & not on themselves. In the Case of Appeals for Instance, as our Ruler has a Mind to cram it, the Ministry can do just as they please if the Parliament is passive & therefore we took time by the forelock to publish our Cause. Our Judges & Council hold their Seats at pleasure. Judges enough can be found to admit the Appeal, & Council with their Governor to receive it, the Business is then done, the Course of the common Law is stopt here & where shall the injur'd Subject go for redress, but to Parliament, for which he must be pretty well qualify'd too both with Substance & Friends. I am allways

Inclos'd is the 2d Bill for £105.2.8.

I forgot to tell you the fellow was a Thief that took Eight Guineas from you for incerting mine & I suppose Mr: Delanceys & Mr. Walton's Name in the New In-

structions, it was never ask'd from One of the Members of the Council either here or in the Jersys, but stole from a few of their Correspondents if they could find them out. Pray send me a Couple of Dozen (twice twelve) of Knives & Forks Blades for Silver Handles. about Twenty Squares of Crown Window Glass, ten by Twelves, half a Dozen Patterns of the strongest black Worsted for Breetches.

Per Capt. Napier

New York 4th May 1765

MR: JOHN ABERDEIN

Kings Street St. James' Square

SIR

I receivd your Letter of 5th Feb: by Capt: Davis with the Cheese for which I thank you, tho' I must own I had no such Acknowledgment in View for the few Services it happend to be in my power to do you. The Bond is not paid & the principal stopt payment, the Security I beleive good if he lives, however be that as it will you need give yourself no uneasiness about it, as I took it to my own Use the Consequence is mine. I shall speak to Stewart to look out for Two or Three Pipes of Madeira for you against the Fall, the best the Market affords, but you must Notice the heavy Duty now paid by Act of Parliament of Seven Pounds Sterling per Ton. I shall also take Care the Bills do not follow so close on the Heels of the Wine. Lady Warren is supplyd with her Wine by Mr: Delancey from hence which renders a recommendation to her of no Use. I am

Per Capt. Davis

N. B. Wrote by Coll. Robertson in Davis to
Coll. Amherst
Mr. Boone
Mr. Drummond

New York 1st June 1765

THE HONORABLE GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

(abstract) ²⁷⁸

Acknowledg'd his favour of April & referd him to mine of the same month. I had read the Votes of parliament & could easily conceive their tediousness about Roads, Turnpikes, Marshes & Commons. The Colonys apprehensive every thing will pass that is brought in, & are fully persuaded an Air both of Severity & Contempt is meant to go along with every resolution, "which has its full effect here." Squire P[ownall]'s performance wo'd be a favour, he like many others wo'd build up a sneaking character at the Expence of America, by falling into the humour of the times, & pretending great knowledge in things of which they were perfectly ignorant. Wish'd Sir Harry had had Gate's Majority. Pollard had remitted £144.5.10 more by Bill on Forman, which he woud not pay. Coll. Vaughan must set all right. Lord Ad. G[ordan]'s plan. Leary not paid for the Horse. Wine in my Cellar very good, fit for moving next fall. Sent Coll. How a Letter from Niagara. Lt. Gov. paid me £225 the Moity of a Quarters Salary due 1st March & £156.5. the half of some perquisites which his Account woud explain when render'd. Inclos'd De Lancey & Watts' Bill on Sir Sam. Fludyer & Partners No. 110 for £400 Sterling mention'd no exchange. The old Man retir'd to Long Island, never meet but in Council, reluctantly enough & business transacted very disagreeably without Confidence Harmony or Real Respect. G. Gage desires his Compliments. Nothing particular to write. Napier wo'd forgive me one Omission, when he recd. my following long Letters. My regards to all friends, I wrote most of them by Davis. L[ad]y S. going up the country. Strange inconsistent plan. Papers shall be given to some passenger.

Per the Harriot packet

²⁷⁸ The original letter is printed in its entirety in *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, 4th ser., X, 572-74.

New York 1st June 1765

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

I hope Capt: Haviland got safe with my Letter of 30th March wherein I desir'd a Sketch of my Account & desir'd the old forgotten Bill of Cosby might be incerted, as the Omission had twice allready puzzeld me to find out the difference of our Accounts. What I said then & in my following Letter of 27th April by the Hyde Packet about our Politicks & yours, I shall trust to old Neptune & to the Post Office, let either take it that pleases.

I am now a Debtor for your favours of 8th & 14th March & 12th of April the last first. I am content with what you have done in paying for Mr: Kemble's Commission as I am persuaded you acted for me as you would have done for your self. Stocks are not an Object of our knowledge at this distance, but at large & by the Gross. Mr: Kemble ¹⁷⁹ desires you would send his Commission to him at the Generals to whom he is Aid De Camp. Interest he also desires you would pay to Capt: Gordons Agent from the Date of the Commission to the payment of the Money, these Charges will all I presume come into my Account together with the Brockage you mention to Mr: Franks, by which I shall be able to settle finally with Mr: Kemble, so that the sooner I have it the better. The Transaction with Baird has no Candor in it. The Gentleman in England must know the Bill was protested, the Notary gives his reason for not paying it, want of Advice, but that is triffling; however grant every thing so far. The Drawer before his leaving Canada had repeated Notice that the Bill was protested, they settled Accounts afterwards in England, & should such a disrespect on One side or 'tother be entirely forgot, was the Bill never to be paid, was I to have no Answer to my Letters, tho I pressingly askd it, was the Drawer to play hide & seek from post to pillar without either letting me know where to find him or where to apply for redress,

¹⁷⁹ Capt. Stephen Kemble was aid-de-camp to Major General Thomas Gage, the Commander-in-chief.

are protests so immaterial when a Gentleman gives a sanction to a Bill without any earthly Consideration but a desire to oblige & serve, was the One Mr: Bairds Letter of Credit to Mr: Rutherford & the other Mr: Bairds dishonour'd Draught to pass for nothing, were not they in Justice & Conscience, both in duty bound diligently to see that the person they had involvd should have reparation, instead of such a fair generous Treatment, I have been plagu'd to send a Hue & Cry about the World from Canada to England from England to the West Indies, without a single Line to this Hour. A Letter to Charles & David Williams at last hit him at Antigo to whom he paid Forty nine Pounds Ten Shillings Currency & frivolously desired an account, tho' I had inform'd him I was obligd to pay 20 per Ct: Damages with Interest from the return of the Bill. Yesterday I receivd another Letter from the Williams's dated 1st May "acknowledging the Receipt of Mr: Bairds Account who remit's you the Ballance by this Conveyance & is very sensible of your politeness to him & will readily pay the Customary Damages in America." Mysterious enough, after saying "he remits the Ballance by this Conveyance," which must necessarily include surely the very Damages I have already paid. But what is more mysterious & more knavish too, not a farthing is remitted or a syllable come from himself by *the* Conveyance. Thus am I treated & thus oblig'd to write volumes, concerning a plaguey Debt, more than it is intrinsically worth, while the dainty partys pretend to great delicacy & Conscience, but take the Devil a Step towards justice. If any of the family of the Bairds *brother or not brother*, catches me so again, I'll forgive them the Debt. Adieu, Yours,

I inclose you a small Bill of Gen. Gages on the Treasury for £39.18.2 Sterling, it is for the Hyre of two small Vessells employ'd in the publick Service between Qubec & Montreal, for which Money was expected but the General is confin'd to Bills it seems having no Money, nor will his Bills on treasury raise Money but at a low Exchange, so shy are people of publick Bodys & Boards.

If Administration, as you call it, put the Troops by Act of Parliament into private Houses, it will be extremely kind & Constitutional in the Bargain, they intend it wou'd seem, that the Colonys sho'd either love or fear them, one of the two, but not both surely.

Per the Harriot packet.

New York 1st June 1765

JAMES NAPIER ESQ:

DEAR SIR

The March Mail that brought me your last favour was so long in ploughing her way hither that the April Mail arrivd some few days before it. I am extremely sorry the Air of London continues to disagree with you, possibly your native Air that I hear you are going to take more from Duty than either from Prescription or Inclination, may do better, if that fails too, you know where the Air is by Experience good & where you will find many sincere Friends, who will divert you with growling if you have patience to hear them. This same Billeting Bill on the Carpet is a new Matter of serious Speculation, People say they had rather part with their Money, tho' rather unconstitutionally than to have a parcel of Military Masters put by Act of Parliament a bed to their Wives & Daughters. I dont know where to begin or where to end in Answer to your request about our Government, Taxation & Trade. I should think they must be all as well understood in England where they are chiefly if not all regulated, as they can be in America. We affect to imitate the Mother Country, & indeed are directed so to do as nearly as Circumstanc will admit of, the Crown you know appoints all the Commissiond Officers civil & military from the Governor in chief down to the smallest Clerk of the most inconsiderable County, the Assembly of course are chose, so are the Magistrates in the Corporation Towns & so are the servile Officers, such as Collectors, Assessors, Constables &c: this seems to be the

general System of Government. All Money raised by Taxes are laid on Estates both real & personal the Countys differ somewhat in their Mode, but in general the Assessor upon Oath Values the Land & the Stock, comparing one Estate with another, both as to Quantity & Quality, which is executed equitably enough, the Assembly by Act ascertains the Quota of each County, when a Sum is to be raised. New York pays invariably one third of such Sum, the rents of Houses & Personal Estates produce it, the first is easily fixd, the other guessd at, comparing One Mans Appearance or known Substance with another, in these Matters you cannot be over nice, the Circumstances of people in Commerce where the greater part live by Credit, wont bear it. As to Trade I have almost forgot it. Our Provisions are generally carryd to the West Indies among all Nations who will encourage them to come. Some little goes to Portugal & Madeira, scarce any where else. The Quantity of each Species I dont know and might guess at wildly, the Custom House could fix it best. I should imagine this Port exports about Eighty Thousand Barrels Flour per Annum, a great deal of the Wheat brought from Maryland & Virginia & Manufacturd, besides we export a Moity at least of the Produce of Connecticut & N Jersey included in that Number. Lumber is admitted to be Shipt almost every where, till lately it was amazingly restraind, to Ireland. The Dutys on Rum Wine & Negroes have heretofore supported our Civil List, how it will operate under the New System time must discover—for fear I should misunderstand you & be wrong I will leave off. I thank you for recovering my desperate Demand on Coll: Young, but for you it would have been gone. You must put it in my power to make you Amends. Barr has no doubt told you all & more than I can about Land, it is more in his Head. I never was cut out for a Land Man. Oliver I hope cheers you now & then, he & his Brother Proprietors are the Master Workmen at Jobbing. Coll: Reid commands the Pittsburgh Department in this Campaign & is gone thither. Lord Adam Gordon is arrivd from the Southward & sets out

next Week for Niagara to return to this place thro' Canada & New England & to embark in a packet after finishing the American Tour, wont he be the greatest Curiosity in England, by the by he seems to be as sanguine about laying it thick upon the Colonys, as they are to throw off every thing, an immense difference.

Per the Harriot packet

New York 3d June 1765

MESSRS: CHARLES & DAVID WILLIAMS

GENTLEMEN

We have your favour of 1st May, but to my great surprize not one Shilling Value of any kind, Credit or Order is come in Capt: Hammond to pay Mr: Bairds shamefull Bill. I dont understand you "that he will readily pay the Customary Damages in America," let him re'embourse me the Money I have actually paid for his neglected Honour with Interest, pursuant to my Account sent you, till repaid into my hands, 'tis all I ask & what I am sure in justice he cannot refuse, tho he has too long done it allready, but if he still evades doing me the Justice I have askd so long in vain, pray put the Affair into some able Lawyers hands, let him immediatly commence a Suit & I will send him a Power & such Evidence as he shall require. I have been put to more trouble about his scandalous Business allready than it is worth. Mr: Baird at Home will not pay the Bill saying he is confident it has been long ago paid at Antigo. Maxwell & Udney who gave the Credit on me wont vouchsafe either to support that Credit or let me hear One Syllable from them. I wonder who (they, or any body concernd in such a Conduct can think) will pay any regard to a future recommendation, such Abuses cannot pass in Oblivion. Pray let these Gentlemen know by a Line as they are in your Neighbourhood how the Affair stands possibly they may recollect themselves. I am

Capt: Hammond saw & spoke with Mr: Baird coming away, but he never opened his Lips about me or any remittance.

I am sorry you cannot close our old Accounts because its impossible to carry on Business to a place that protracts remittances so long. Let us know what is outstanding & from whom. We may possibly fall on Ways of recovering the Money.

New York 8th June 1765

MR. MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

I Wrote you this day week by the Packet, too long to repeat & little as well as long, which was the worst of it. Inclos'd is the second Bill on Treasury for £39.18.2 Sterling, little enough too.

God send you all the happiness you wish, but mind, as happiness is a good deal ideal, the way to be happy is to endeavour to think your self so, even tho' the road is rather rougher than you would choose. No man was ever happy against his Will, & few Men but may be so with reflection, barring some confounded obstacles that wo'd require a Socrates or some such Hystorical philosopher. I am

Per the Hallifax

New York 8th June 1765

THE HONORABLE GEN. MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you fully by the Harriot packet the 1st Inst: & acknowledged your favour by the April Mail. Inclos'd is the Second Bill on Sir Sam. Fludyer & partners for £400 Sterling No. 110. Handsome Jack Campbell carryd your last Papers the present I design for Capt: Treeby. You'll observe in Holts last Thursdays Paper a bold stroke at John Bull, who is the Author I never heard so

much as guessd at, but by the Sowerness & the perseverance (for it seems he is not yet done) I should guess him a Presbyterian, & a rash One too, who does not know what he is about, I mean what risque he runs. It's innocent Work to bait a Minister, but hands off of edg'd Tools. My regards to all my friends I dont know that I am indebted one Letter to any of them, not that I should stand on idle Ceremony, but that I have not a single Circumstance to offer, worth their Notice. I wrote my friend Napier by the Cumberland Packet & last Week by the Harriot, if the two dont give him a Surfeit I am mistaken, but if writing would bring him, we would still labour on at all risques.

Be pleas'd to tell Coll: Barré with my Compliments his friend Doctor Clossy is on a Visit to Philadelphia. I introduc'd him to Mr: Allens Family both old & young, he may take his choice. Not one Sickness have we been afflicted with since the Doctor arrivd, how unlucky. I ever am

Per the Hallifax

New York 10th July 1765

MR: JOHN WICKHAM & SONS [of Barbados]

GENTLEMEN

Your little Sloop Mary we hope will be with you e'er this which is sent to Philadelphia to seek a Passage. She arrivd Six days ago & will sail if the Capt: can get her ready in four more, the Business of fitting the Vessel has hitherto retarded her which could not be avoided. The Cargo shall correspond with your Orders. Flour is dear 16/ per Ct: but will be higher before the New Crop is fit for Manufacturing. Rum is fluctuating from 3/ to 3/4 or 3/5 as in greater or less Quantitys, the Sales slow at the latter prices (as the Stock for Harvest is laid in) & probably may remain so till the Fall. We could have peddled yours out at about 3/3 or 3/4 but then the Wast, Expence, Charge of Storage which is savd & perhaps a

bad Debt have reduced it as low as the Conditions for which we have sold it agreeable to your Orders on the Arrival. More it would not fetch, Viz: I hhd: $3/5$, 8 ditto $3/3$, the remainder $3/$. A small Adventure of my own I sold a few days before at $2/10\frac{1}{2}$ per Gallon. The Gold to be Shipt you Costs $64/$ the half Johannes the stated price for some time past, few or no other Species of Gold are passing among us. Exchange on London is $82\frac{1}{2}$ to 85 per Ct: if these Terms would do I fancy it must answer better than a remittance in Flour, which is generally disproportionate between the two Markets. Whenever an Opening offers having some young Folks to train up of my own, I should be glad to cultivate this Introduction you have been so kind as to make & remain

Via Philadelphia to D. F. by M. Wharton, Copy by
Capt. Caron

New York 17th July 1765

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ. [of Barbados]

(abstract)

Acknowledg'd his Letter 25 feb. from London, just recd. mentioned as Account depending between his late father & me, no great ballance of either side, desired to know what I was credited for the 80 half Johannes sent from Philadelphia a little before his Death. Sent him two Letters for his brother Francis, unknown to me from whence they came or whither destin'd. Mention'd Mr. Allens paying me £6.10. Currency by guess for some Sweet Meats sent him the Account lost. Wish'd him all manner of happiness in his Office, an Office that ought to be fill'd by a humane Heart, or woe to the Country & to Commerce.

per Capt. Caron

New York 17th July 1765

MR: JOHN WICKHAM & SONS

GENTLEMEN

Capt: Cearon ¹⁸⁰ having got his Sloop ready we hand you Accounts Sales of her Cargo of Rum producing £1332.6.5 Invoice & Bill of Lading of her Loading out amounting to £597.4.9, Charges &ca: of the Vessel £67.19.2 & your Account Current Ballanced by a Bag of Gold to the Value of £667.2.6.

I hope what has been done will meet with your approbation, every thing has been conducted in the best manner the times would afford, both with regard to the Sale of the One Cargo & the purchase of the other. The Sloops Expences the Capt: will answer for, as he was subject to your Orders. The Guage at Barbados of Rum seldom holds out with ours which is managd by a sworn Officer, tho the Method seems to be the same. The Flour is such as your Capt: recommends not heavy Packd, from Albany River, & calculated to sell by the Barrel if it should go to the Leward. The Water Casks my Cooper says are substantial & may do for Rum. for further particulars I referr you to Capt: Cearon & am

per Capt. Cearon

New York 23d July 1765

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

DEAR SIR

The 17th past I answer'd your favour from London of 25th Feb:, which had just then reachd me. I also inclosd you two Letters for your Brother Francis, which I conjectur'd were meant for Barbados, as they were left at my House with some others from London. You now have a third left in the same manner. The inclos'd rough Sketch of Accounts between your late worthy father & me I imagine you will find right, the respective Ballances

¹⁸⁰ William Caron, captain of the sloop *Mary*, from and to Barbados. *N. Y. Mercury*, July 8, 22, 1765.

I cannot strike as I know not the Value of the half Johannes if any Mistake has been committed you will be pleased to set me right. I have given Orders if the Master will take them that a Barrel or two of our finest Flour be sent you as a Specimen, for the Ladys Pastry.

Should any of your friends be inclineable to Ship Rum to the Northward in the Fall I imagine it will answer well enough, if it has not risen in Barbados, & they want remittances to England by Bill. I should not dislike being concernd in a Cargo of about a hundred or a hundred & Twenty Hhds: myself. Gold may be had to pay for it, or Bills if the Exchange would answer from $82\frac{1}{2}$ to 85 per Ct: reckoning the difference between your Currancy & ours 25 per Ct: as we generally settle it. I have some young Folks growing up who must be taught some Business, the Law or Commerce seems to be the only alternative with us & such Numbers infest the first that the latter I think upon the whole is become full as Creditable, besides the approaching times will probably prove such a fiery Tryal as will give Business fairer play than a State of War, that levels all distinctinctions. [*sic*]
I am truly

Per Capt. Brass

New York 24th July 1765

MR: JOSEPH MAYNARD

SIR

My last Letters to you I think remain unanswerd, requiring indeed no Answer. Mr: Paice has sent me an Account of the Mollys Hostage which he has managd with great cleaverness and Address, the proportion paid for the Owners & Insurors is but £14.17 Sterling the inclosd Sketch will shew you how we have settled it here £20.12.1 Currency falling to the Insurors, shall be passd to your Credit when paid. I am

Per Capt. Brass

New York 23d July 1765

MR: JOHN WICKHAM & SONS

GENTLEMEN

Nothing New since your Sloop saild which was the day the Letter was dated. Inclosd are the Copys of the respective Papers.

Per Capt. Brass

New York 30th July 1765

MR. JOHN COLLINS

[Barbados]

SIR

A day or Two ago I was favoured with your Letter of 19th June by Capt: Gilbert who did not leave the island it seems till the Beginning of July. It gave me great Concern to hear of the Death of my worthy & much esteemd Friend Coll: Clarke with whom I had cultivated a long & a friendly Correspondence, but it is in vain to repine, the Dispensations of Providence must be submitted to, tho' sometimes to us who cannot see into them, they may appear severe. He has left a Son whose Valuable Friendship I hope to inherit by my Title from the Father. I lost my own Father in the year Fifty at a good old Age having livd to above Seventy & survivd his return from Barbados to this Country about Twenty Years.

This Market seems rather encouraging for Rum, if the Proof be good, for Strength is as much regarded as any thing. It sells by Quantitys for about 3/1 & retails by single Hhds: at 3/3 & 3/4, in the Fall I should imagine the price will rather be better than worse, but that depends greatly upon the quantity imported Half Johanne's the only Gold that Circulates amongst us to any Value, may now be pickd up at 64/ each, or Eight Dollars & probably may so continue for some time, unless a particular run should happen for Gold which sometimes has

been the Case. Bills will by no means answer at the present Exchange which is $82\frac{1}{2}$ to 85 per Ct: & rather rising.

I beg leave to subscribe myself.

Via Philadelphia to Stⁿ. Levy

New York 30th July 1765

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

I wrote you 17th Inst: by Capt: Cearon & the 23d by a Capt: Brass, who could be prevaild on it seems, being quite loaded, to take only One solitary Barrel of Flour for you. I sent by that Conveyance also a rough Sketch of Accounts depending between my much esteem'd deceas'd friend & myself, which anticipates Mr: Carews request, & will serve as a foundation for him to build upon, tho' not closd, which my uncertainty of the Value of the half Jo's sent by Capt. White prevented. I have allready mentiond to you that I should with pleasure improve every Opportunity that offerd to render our correspondence more & more intimate & frequent & as I flatter myself a thorough Confidence is establishd on both sides, I know nothing to hinder it, but very untoward Circumstances, which we must endeavour to remove as they arise. Rum in the Fall I should imagine may govern between 3/3 & 3/6 per Gallon, Sugars good from 50/ to 56/ or thereabouts, by this you will judge from your own Market what encouragement there is, & if you proceed I am content to embark with you with all my Heart, but how am I to furnish my Mammon, will it do when you advise me or must it be sent previously haphazard. Albany Horses I should apprehend come too dear for Sale at your Market, Mr: Gibbs can tell you what his stand him in, which is high, about Forty Pounds a head I beleive calculating Insurance.

I sent a mixt Cargo to Barbados in Sixty Two to your

Fathers Order that he was so kind as to save from Destruction, but the Prices then bore no proportion to the Cost & Expence, I lost plaguily by it. Indeed the Market of your Island is generally esteemd low. St: Christophers by our Connoisseurs is much preferrd to it, however upon the whole you are the best Judge & I leave it to you entirely. Now for your Adventure by Gilbert. I receivd Mr. Carews advice of it on Thursday, the common premium is $2\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct: but as others had arrivd in a shorter time & she had her Chance, the Underwriters askd 3 per Ct:, I refusd till Saturday Evening and then submitted, in four & Twenty Hours the Vessel arriv'd. I have sold 1 hhd: of the Rum at $\frac{3}{4}$, 2 ditto at $\frac{3}{3}$ & the remainder at $\frac{3}{1\frac{1}{2}}$ per Gallon, this I judgd most for your Interest the first are the pedling Prices, would take some time to get rid of the Cargo & of course create some Waste & Expence which added to the Charge of Storage, Cartage &ca: would reduce the Sales to pretty much the same thing, besides keeping you out of the Money, which now will be ready with the Accounts for the first good Conveyance. My time is run out, this I send to Philadelphia to make it's way to you. pray let the inclosd be deliverd to Mr: Collins with the proper direction added to his name which I dont know, & pray let me be informed what it is. He writes to me about the Consignment of some Rum & says I was recommended to him by your good Father. I am with great truth,

Half Johannes the only Species of Gold of any Value passing among us cost 64/ or Eight Dollars.

Via Philadelphia to Stⁿ. Levy

New York 3d August 1765

MR: WILLIAM BRYMER

SIR

We wrote you 29th Ult: by the Post giving Advice of this Vessels sailing with the Fragments of this Years

Supply. The Account of the Books, to be had, is inclosed amounting to £30.— supplyd by our most noted Dealer in that way, some of them were not to be had it seems quite New others not at all. Not understanding these things myself I put the Account into the hands of a practitioner of the Law for his Inspection. His Report was, that the Books were dear, but as cheap as they could be bought here. I hope the Effect of them may make up for the price. I am very truly

My son commences a small Correspondence with you which may probably encrease if you continue at Quebec in the Merchantile way.

Per Capt. Simonton ¹⁸¹

New York 5th August 1765

MR: EDWARD POLLARD

SIR

I receivd yours covering Mr: Stirlings Bill on John Duncan Esq: for £194 Currency which is sent up to Schenectady for acceptance & if paid shall be passd to your Credit. Your petition has had no Effect here nor they say can you recover your Money advanced to the Artificers &ca: without the Vouchers, so that another time you must be more cautious how you part with your Money, especially for publick Uses. Coll: Vaughan must be so kind as to help you thro' for this unlucky Once if he can, Coll: Maitland has done all that was proper here. I am

Per the Generals Dispatches

¹⁸¹ Andrew Simonton, captain of the sloop *Seaflower*, cleared from N. Y. for Quebec. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, July 25, Aug. 8, 1765.

New York 7th August 1765

MR: JOHN RIDDELL, Virginia

SIR

Mr: White communicated your Message about the Wines, we shall do as well as we can for you. I referr you to him for particulars.

Inclos'd is Bill of Lading for 6 Boxes of the best Havanna White Sugars imported while it was in our possession, our Custom House calls it English. I went to know if any Objection could attend the Export to Virginia, the Answer was, "no certainly", still as every thing seems unsettled I did not choose to trust more till I had tryd the Experiment, another reason stood in the way too, not being acquainted with your Market for it. I can sell it for ten pence here, but should hesitate at Eleven, tis so good, dont be in a hurry about the Sale if it will not fetch something proportionate, should the price be encouraging I beleive there may be near Twenty Boxes left. In very great haste I am

Mr: Stewart¹⁸² the Surveyor General of the middle District is here from Canada, which is in his Department.

Per Capt. Peart

New York 11th August 1765

NATHA: PAICE ESQ:

SIR

I must beg your Excuse for neglecting to answer your favour of 9th Nov: last sooner, which is owing entirely to the Papers &ca: lying too long in the hands of the insurers, who having been rather unlucky in their Business, unwillingly attend to old Demands, which are almost esteemd obsolete, 'tis within this few days I have been able to bring the Affair to an issue. Both they & Mr:

¹⁸² Charles Stewart arrived in N. Y. from Canada on July 29, 1765. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Aug. 1, 1765.

Maynard are extremely obligd to you for your Attention, Generosity & Address in conducting so perplexd a Transaction, the Expence falls I own far short of my Expectation, & very comfortable it has been to me it did so, for I never in all my Life have had so much plague and Altercation in settling any one Occurance of Business, as the Capture of this Vessel brought upon me from the Beginning, I several times expected it would have forced me in to the hatefull Labyrinths of the Law & I dont know but it's owing to your Character & good Managment that we have kept out of it at last, for which accept my hearty thanks. I have duely advisd Mr: Maynard of this final Settlement, the poor Ransomers Evils were not growing abroad only, he found a Capital One at Home in the person of his help Mate. I remain very truely,

Inclosd is a Letter from Mr: Henry Norman of St: Johns in Newfoundland the Receipt of which you will be pleased to advise him.

Per the Cumberland packet & Capt. Hunter ¹⁸³

New York 11th August 1765

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

I am to thank you for your favour of 7th March & 10th May, by the latter I am glad to find the Affair with Greenwich Hospital at an End. My Letter by Capt: Haviland of 30th March seems to be in a bad way, as he was not arrivd when the June Mail came away, the principal purport of it was to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of 25th Dec: & to inclose a Bill for Mr: Peter Delanceys Use, a Second of which went by Capt: Napier 30th April. Our old Ruler is retir'd into the Country, we hear or see very little of him, nor of the contended Appeal gone Home, but what comes from private hands, & those are very encouraging. The Agent has sent an Opinion of

¹⁸³ John Hunter, captain of the ship *Elisabeth*, for London. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, July 4, 1765; *N. Y. Mercury*, Aug. 19, 1765.

Mr: Thurloe a Counsellor at Law which makes pretty free with the old Gentlemans Novelle Doctrine, this however he would care little for, if they would but vouchsafe him One Ministerial Smile, for which I verily beleive he would be content to go to the D—l or at least to run an imminent risque of it. Our Indian Affairs seem quiet for the present & if the Scheme takes which I am told they are at present pursuing, of bringing in Pondiac, who is an artfull fellow & has it in his power to be Mischievous, most probably they may remain so, the General had this in View before, but his directions were not properly executed. Business is here very languid, the weak must go to the Wall, frequent Bankrupteys & growing more frequent. I am allways

Per the Cumberland packet & Capt. Hunter

New York 11th August 1765

MESSRS: LASSELLES & DALING
GENTLEMEN

My last was 1st April by Capt. Winne who I find is arrivd. I am since favourd with yours of 29th March advising me that Mr: Clarke by succeeding his Father had left the House. About a Month ago I had the pleasure of a Letter from him at Barbados, where he & his Family were all arrivd safe & well. His presence was very seasonable, for it is reported a person appointed to fill the Vacancy was hurrying to be rich too fast, or at least making the most of his time. Some hard things have happend in Consequence of the late Act of Trade, either not being early enough & properly sent abroad or not being well understood by the different Offices in different Colonys. I am

Per the Cumberland packet & Capt. Hunter

New York 11th August 1765

MESSRS: DAVID BARCLAY & SONS

GENTLEMEN

We have your favour of 14th Dec: to acknowledge & should have answerd it sooner but that we expected to have had more Matter before us, after Fell & Bedlow arrivd & after the prosecutions were begun against our most griping Lord & his Creatures. We do not mean as we before observd to be Knight Errands in the Case, but we meant to do ourselves Justice, keeping a fair pace with others as they go on. Surely among such an Army of injur'd Adventurers the Oppression must be laid open to a Demonstration, & can there be wanting Spirit or Justice in the Nation to punish so flagrant an Abuse. The Dutys we ever esteemd a Trifle, compar'd to the difference of price & if you'l be pleas'd to cast your Eyes over our Papers they will appear so. Why his Lordship or any Minion under him should convert Nine Thousand Dollars of our Money, fairly earnd, to his or their Use, to us is a Mystery, as much as it is that we should be without releif. To prevent the like for the future is a distant kind of a Consolation, to the present Sufferers, tis worse than praying a Soul out of purgatory, it leaves him there, & redeems another in his Stead.

We remain with all due respect

I send you a Letter from Hen. Norman of N. F. Land by this conveyance

Per the Cumberland packet & Mr. Barclay

New York 11th August 1765

THE HONORABLE GEN: MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

As I dont treat you so much like a Merchant as to send Cops of my Letters, it may sometimes be necessary for your Affairs, not for the other Matter they contain,

to recapitulate Dates & some other Circumstances, which you must pardon when you are at the trouble of reading such repetitions. The 4th April by Capt: Haviland to London, who I find is missing, I sent the Sales of your Cloathing and gave a State of Pollards Payments & Situation, if Haviland should be so unfortunate as to go to pot, I will send another Sales, my future Letters will serve for what relates to Pollard. He lately sent me a Bill for £194 Currency on John Duncan, which is gone to Schenectady for Acceptance & Payment, this if I am right will make £889.11. in the whole & I think he stands fast for the rest. The 16th & 27th April I wrote by the Hide Packet, she was arrivd I find. The 1st June by the Harriot, her we shall trust too. So we shall the Hallifax for a subsequent One of 8th following which finishes my List. Capt. Shirreff delivered me your favour of 12th May. I am truly sorry any Ailment should oblige you to travel & sincerely hope since it is so, the Journey may have it's entire effect. I shall not fail to answer for the Capt: the Hundred Pounds to Drummond, nor to do him any good Office in my power. It is matter of great Joy to us that the old Man is so charmingly disappointed in his wanton Appeal, his low Creatures here pronounced Sentence impudently against the Chief Justice, Attorney General & several others, as Sacrifices doom'd to his resentment. You cant conceive how insolent they are. 'tis a serious reflection to think of Goverment so prostituted. He is in the Country & sees no body, nor any body him. No Business done, he is I beleive righteously persecuted from Home about Officers &ca: Lands, they know their Man & treat him accordingly, without much delicacy, it is generally thought, however (says he) let them laugh that win. Leary not paid for the Horse, nor I imagine very able. I have settled with Davenport & paid him in full £31.9.6, £26.12 being for 66½ weeks Board Wages at a Dollar & £4.17.6 for Seeds to Crop up the Garden, Sundry trifling Tools & Repairs. Mr: Mortier has paid me £24 for two years rent for the Lot. Thus stand your Money Matters, the old Man has paid nothing lately.

My good friend Napier has declar'd a Truce in our Correspondence till he returns from the North, but I am apprehensive I shall break it before, his May & June Letters are safe with me & afford more information than any we had receivd. They are at fine Work at Home, God grant something may be done for the good of the Nation as well as for the Interest & Gratification of Individuals.

Mrs. Philips' ¹⁸⁴ Death, Pondiac applyd to, Papers not sent, Message to Coll. Amherst about Corn & Rice, Papers sent by Capt. Walton to Bristoll.

Per the Cumberland packet & Mr. Barclay

New York 11th August 1765

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

My last was 8th June by the Harriot Packet I am since favoured with yours of 10th May & 7th June. Capt: Kemble's Commission is come over safe, send the total Amount & all will be right. I wrote Brymer immediatly upon the Receipt of your Letter to prepare him for his Change. He is I beleive both able & honest. Mr: D. I dont know, but if he conducts your ticklish Concerns as well, which no doubt he will, you wont in my opinion have much reason to complain. How lyable tho' are we to err in our Judgments of Men. Gamble stood the highest in our Confidence of any of the People employd in any of the Contracts, yet we have been mistaken and have been obligd to part. I cant however think his Behavior is of choice, but of necessity, by a hippish kind of Indolence he has unaccountably wasted most if not all of the Money receivd from Coll: Bradstreet for the Provisions lent, which we could not prevent going thro' his hands, nor should then, if we could, having an intire Con-

¹⁸⁴ Joanna (Brockholst) Philipse, widow of the Hon. Frederick Philipse, second Lord of the Manor of Philipsborough, died Aug. 4, 1765. Bolton, *Westchester County, N. Y.*, (3rd ed.), I, 521-22; *Holt's N. Y. Gazette*, Aug. 8, 1765.

fidence in him, but Mr: Delancey going to Albany, found the Money spent without the poor Wretches knowing how to Accompt for it, he had neither gam'd, drank or livd expensively, still the Money was gone, this alarmd us extremely, we found it no longer safe to repose a Confidence in him, & without the least delay appointed another, but how to get the Money where it is not puzzles us, the New Contract owes him some, & near all as he in Despair makes it out, charging his Salary & other Allowances as before, but this cannot be. It's true having an entire Confidence in him we made no solemn Bargain supposing he would receive with Gratitude any reasonable Allowance as he certainly would, if this Money had not slipt thro' his Fingers, God knows how, as it is we must get what we can from him, allow him a little generously in mercy, as he is turnd off, & settle the Matter equitably between the two Contracts the Loss wont be great. We are just upon the same Footing with Allicocke but he being not in such an untoward Situation, left it to ourselves to allow him a reasonable Consideration between Man & Man. We have not been so explicit with the Contractors, because tho' the poor Man is fallen, we would not make his Case too publick & black, to serve no purpose, he is an excellent Clerk and under immediate Direction would have done every thing that was right, but has too much indolence & Lowness of Spirits to act the master. Monier is just the reverse, nor shall he have the Opportunity the other by a bad Custom begun with the Contracts had, of passing such Sums thro' his hands, for Provisions lent, lend them we must, but the reimbursement shall be securd some other way. I fancy I have tyred you as well as myself, nothing has vexd Mr: Delancey and me more than this unexpected Affair, not from the importance of it, for it is not great, but from the Necessity of parting with an old, able (& hitherto faithfull) Servant, to seek a living, as he expresses it, where he can get it, advanced in Life with an incurable Nervous Complaint acquird in the Service, it is very affecting.

There is a Movement in your Administration sure enough with a Witness, may it all tend to the publick Good. By this Packet if it stays a few Hours, or next Week by a Merchantman, we shall close your Account of the late Contract, exclusive of this ungratefull Tra[n]-saction with Mr: Gamble, whose Apostacy has delayd it so long, the Ballance is now £100 Sterling.

Per the Cumberland packet & Mr. Barclay

New York 11th August 1765

ADAM DRUMMOND ESQ:

DEAR SIR

By the June Mail I was favoured with your Letter of 10th May, with the inclosed for your Brother, which I immediatly sent forward under a Cover of our own, offering him all the Services & good offices in our power. We have not yet heard of his Arrival, if he has a Tast for farming he will have Scope enough in Canada to exercise all his Talents, & may be of very great Use to those ignorant idle People, as Example goes far beyond Precept all the World over, especially with the lower Rank of People, who must be illuminated, litterally, by their Eyes. I shall give your Company Credit for the Hundred Pounds Sterling advanced Capt: Sheriff, he is a very good young Man, & deserves it. No reflection will ever arise from your advancing the Money, indeed it is a thing that requires no Mention at all; with regard to any Use that can flow from it to your Business, I apprehend none. This is a different Department, the Secretarys & Commissarys are the right Clue, but we make little use of either, unless to keep upon good Terms, which common Prudence requires, we go allways to the Fountain Head, there the Waters are drank pure. I can't tell what use is made of the B——t but I should imagine not a great deal, he is seldom here, residing in the Jersys & pays short Visits when he comes, a Letter cant be amiss guardedly wrote, meerly an Apology.

I have finishd my Paper & my Subject & have nothing left but to subscribe

Lady Susan at Lord Stirlings in the Jersys, the Manager I am told come, but it cant do, the Scheme is too impracticable. You seem to have had notable doings at Home. No Peace in Israel.

Per the Cumberland packet

New York 13th August 1765

MR: EDWARD POLLARD

SIR

Underneath is a Copy of Mr: Duncans Answer upon the presentment of Mr: Stirlings Bill to him for £194.9.1. You must give such Directions as you judge best, what is to be done with it, for it would be in vain I suppose to return it in a hurry for a recovery at the Detroit & might also be the means of slipping the payment here, when the Bill was gone, I shall therefore keep it for your farther Directions. I have allready inform'd you that we could do nothing more towards the repayment of the Money advanced Morrison without the Vouchers, it stops entirely for want of them, this is the result of our Application to the General & Major James. Coll: Maitland has been very kind & taken all the proper Steps. I am inclosd to Jno. Monier

New York 13th Aug: 1765

JOHN DUNCAN ESQ:

SIR

I can say nothing about the private Conditions of Mr: Stirlings Bill, if it was meant to be run out Two Months. Nothing was easier than to have extended the payment to that time & it would have govern'd every successive possessor. Pollard who was not the first, sent it to me

without any restriction, to him I shall referr your Answer & wait for his Directions which probably will take up the Two Months & perhaps more, in the mean time you can act as you think most consistant with your Engagements. I must be satisfyd. I am

inclosd to Jno. Monier

New York 17th Aug: 1765

MR: WALTER CAREW [of Barbados]

I wrote Mr: Clarke a long Letter 30th Ult: by the way of Philadelphia advising him of the Arrival of Gilbert & the Sale of the Rum. Gilbert is returning to Barbados in Eight or Ten days & by him I shall send the Proceeds in half Johannes's but as you are entirely silent about Insurance I shall referr that Matter to yourself to do as you like.

As I wrote fully to Mr: Clarke I did not judge it necessary to trouble you a round about Way as Philadelphia is, with a repetition of the same thing of course did not acknowledge your favours of 29th June & 4th July which came duely to hand.

The Accounts you desire in the latter, I had previously sent by One Capt: Brass from hence 23d July, if I had known the price of half Johanne's to have been at that time 50/ Barbados Money I would have closd the Accounts. As they were sent to Mr: Clarke to re-embourse him in part for 30 hhds: Rum at first Shipt on his own Account by the Norwych Packet in the Summer 1763 but afterwards by Agreement taken to Mine at prime Cost I thought it properest to give my Barbados Account Credit for the Value, however you may place it to either one or tother as you please The Freight was paid on this side the Water. Rum I should imagine will answer here in the Fall if the Price does not rise with you as they say

tis scarce among the English Leward Islands & the Foreign cannot find an Entrance.

My respects to Mr: Clarke. I am
by H. White to Philadelphia Per Capt. Rees

New York 17th August 1765

LT: COLL: ROBERTSON

SIR

Capt: Mitchell desires me to send the inclosd Vouchers after you to England, if you had left no Orders to pay the Money here, which upon enquiring of Mr: Wallace I cannot find you have. Capt: Mitchell says "he has had a great deal of trouble about this Affair which he should be very easy about, had he not advanc'd the Money." If you choose to pay the Value to General Monckton or Sir Will. Baker I will repay Mr: Mitchell here, or I suppose lodging it with the Agent Mr: Poumies may do as well. We heard from you on board of Davis by the Packet Via Falmouth you spoke with at Sea. I hope every thing ended afterwards well & am

Per Capt. Hunter

New York 17th August 1765

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

I wrote you long enough by the Packet 11th Inst., pursuant to the Hint given then I now transmit to the late Contractors their final Account, barring Gambles vexatious detention, which shall be wound up as well as the Nature of the thing will admit of, more we cannot promise nor can more be done. the Ballance of £75.11.6 due to the Contract I beg you would pay and charge me with it. Your old Correspondent Mr: Plumsted¹⁸⁵ dyed

¹⁸⁵ William Plumsted, an Alderman of Philadelphia, and Register General of Wills for Pennsylvania, died at Philadelphia on Sunday, Aug. 11, 1765. *Pennsylvania Gazette*, Aug. 15, 22, 1765.

at Philadelphia a few Days ago, how he has left his Affairs I dont know, but Davy no doubt will look to yours. This Event is by no means a surprise to me, his Facultys have seem'd num'd for a good while. If Mr. D——d ¹⁸⁶ besides being Comptroler and your Agent, is to be Distributor of the Stamps too, as I see in the Papers, he will have Business in Plenty upon his hands, it may be presumed. These Pluralitys often perplex and entangle with one another, the Old saying is a very wise one, about the Irons, some will grow cold, but not a Sylable of this to your partner and my old Friend. I have a long Letter from him on the Subject which I answer'd by the Packet, this last you may let him know, if it sho'd not come to hand, tho' I think it's hardly worth stealing.

By this Time I suppose you must be in Fetters,¹⁸⁷ may they set easy upon you, tho' they have galld some poor mortals confoundedly. You have a Plaister however in hand for a small Sore, which is some comfort. but to be serious, beleive that I wish you both all the Happyness the State Affords, real or ideal and that I am most truely Madams and Dear Sir yours always

Per Capt. Hunter

New York 17th August 1765

COLL: WILL. AMHERST

DEAR SIR

As this Conveyance is Scott free till it gets on tother Side the Water, where nothing passes free, I shall venture tho' a little premature to send you a few Lines to let you know, I have done just Nothing, not at least to any purpose, in the Execution of your Commands for the Indian Corn & rough Rice, of the first not one Bushell can I get of the Growth of this Colony New Jersey or the

¹⁸⁶ Colin Drummond, distributor of stamps at Quebec. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Aug. 15, 1765.

¹⁸⁷ Moses Franks married on July 2, 1765, his first cousin, Phila Franks, daughter of Aaron Franks. "Genealogy of the Franks Family", by Israel Solomons, in *Pub. Amer. Jewish Hist. Soc.*, XVIII, 213-14.

Eastward, where the best is produced, so scanty was the last Crop that the Country people send to Town for the Growth of Virginia for their own Consumption. I am now writing to my friend Allen to try if he can procure it in Philadelphia, if that fails too, I must send you some of the Virginia Produce for a Specimen & wait till our New Crop is fit to Ship to furnish the rest which will not be till Winter. The price you may reckon in general about 20 d. Sterling per Bushel the Freight Home pretty much the same, the Cask that contains three Bushels may Cost about 12 d. Sterling which is 4 d. per Bushel, this is the Sum total, barring Insurance which Noblemen I suppose are above calculating. This Country you know affords no Rice at all of its own, I shall write to Carolina to have it Shipt when the Crop comes in which will be in November.

We want much to hear how this grand combustion at Home will end, it looks big, may it not prove the Mountain in labour, may the offspring be Noble & bring peace to the Kingdom. Mrs. Philips dead, & Mr. Plumsted, L. Adam, Mr. Allen, Virginians travelling to Canada, Montreal to become Montpellier, I had rather take tother trip to Bethlehem, &c:

Per Capt. Hunter

New York 19th August 1765

JAMES NAPIER ESQ.

(Abstract)

As he hints a truce, I sho'd not have follow'd him with this, but to thank him for his favours of 12th May & 8th June. Mine of 1st June the only Letter not receiv'd. Mr. Duane's Visiting his Land, good, some Settlers under a N. H. title to be quieted, the best way to compound for their farms, it woud encourage the settlement. Upon the whole advis'd him to sell for a tolerable price, it requird great attention, more than he or I coud give it, still if he persisted I wo'd do what one friend coud do for another as far as my knowledge reach'd. Wanted to hear how

their great jumble at Home ended. Now the Skeleton was bare, it would be a pity to let proud flesh grow on it again. Mr. G. falls on his Legs, perhaps some others. All puzzled how to extricate the Nation from its Load of Debt. Anticipations &c: the publick machine choak'd. Mrs. P.'s & Plumsted's death. Lt. Fraser got to N. Orleans, Pondiac behaves well. Croghan attack'd, the people alarm'd who did it, when they consider'd what they had done. The best way to set these Wretches by the Ears together, to keep us quiet. All his friends well, my family as usual send him their good Wishes.

Per Capt. Hunter inclos'd to Mr. Monckton

N. B. Wrote to Sir Cha. Hardy by this Conveyance

New York 19th Aug: 1765

THE HONORABLE GEN. MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you 11th Inst: by the Packet, No Alterations since in Money Matters, the Bill for £194 on Duncan is not accepted, but he says he will pay it in a Month or two, these Folks I am afraid stretch the Cord too much, it may chance to break. I have wrote to Coll: Amherst by this Conveyance. I could not abstain from Napier any longer, pray put the inclosd in a way to get to him, it will cost little & I'll be bound is not worth much. Jo: Walton of the Artillery had the last Bundle of Papers thro' Bristoll, Doughty the Taylor carries this. I am still with my very sincere respects to the Family & all friends

N. B. Mention'd G. G.'s hearing from Fraser & Croghan, the latter attack'd. My regards to Coll. Hale.

Per Capt. Hunter

New York 27th Aug: 1765

Mr: Walter Carew

SIR

Inclosd you have Account Sales of the Cargo of Rum by the Friendship Capt: Gilbert Netting £709.5.2 & Bill of Lading for a Bag of Gold he has now on board amounting to £695.10.2 which added to the premium of £450 Insurd on the Rum to this place Ballances the Account Current which is likewise inclosd. My father being out of Town & Capt: Gilbert just now going off you will receive this Letter with the inclosd Papers in his behalf from

Per Capt. Gilbert & the Roebuck

New York 28th Aug: 1765

GEDNEY CLARKE ESQ:

SIR

My Son Yesterday in my absence inclosd Mr: Carew Sales of the Rum by Gilbert, the Account Current & Bill of Lading, for the whole Nt: Proceeds, by the same Vessel, returning to Barbados as I inform'd Mr: Carew 17th Inst: by the way of Philadelphia. Rum its generally thought will answer here in the Fall if the Price does not advance with you, which it probably wil, if a scarcity prevails among the Leward Islands. I am obligd to finish, the Vessel being under Sail and remain

I wrote you 23d Ult: by a Capt: Brass from hence directly & 30th by the way of Philadelphia at large. A mistake has prevailed in my absence I find of making the Transaction run in your Name by Gilbert

Per the Roebuck

New York 28th Aug: 1765

MESSRS: SCOTT PRINGLE CHEAP & Co:

GENTLEMEN

It's so long a time since I had the pleasure of writing to you that I hardly know from what Period to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letters but I beleive I have receivd them all regularly down to 4th Ult: The Account Sales of my Flour per the Gambia has of course reachd me, had it been Shipt some Months later it might have done well, but the Success of Markets is a Secret I could never penetrate before hand, or I should never trouble you with the vending of Commoditys that were a Burthen. It may in time be worth while to import from Madeira thro' some Out Port in England, but that Season is not yet arrivd. Wines were never a greater Drug than at present, they are selling allmost every day at Auction for low prices & while that lasts there can be little encouragment for venturing upon the importation in any Shape, besides the price of Grain keeps up so amazingly here as in effect to forbid the Exportation any where. I have not hitherto had the pleasure of seeing Mr: Murray possibly he may not be got so far Northward, but when he visits this place I shall be glad to shew him such Civilitys as are due to him from my long Correspondence with your House, in the mean time I remain
Sirs

Your ballance of Account I shall think of soon

New York 2d Sept: 1765

MR: THOMAS MUMFORD

SIR

This day I inform Mr: Temple that your Order on Mr: LeRoy for Five Hundred Pounds has been punctually honourd. Whatever other Money you shall be

directed to remit for his Use I will take proper Care of
till he shall call it out of my hands. I am

Per post

New York 2d Sept: 1765

ROBERT TEMPLE ESQ:

SIR

Mr: Thos: Mumford of Groton has remitted me for
your use a Bill on Mr: Jacob LeRoy for Five Hundred
Pounds this Currency which Bill is paid the Money waits
your Directions. Mr: Mumford adds that "he shall soon
order some more Money into my hands for Mr: Temple."
Mr: Temple knows best for what purpose.

N. B. The rest of the Letter relates to the mobs &c:
at Boston & where the confusion will end.

Per post

New York 16th Sept: 1765

MR: THOMAS MUMFORD

SIR

By the last Post I informed you that Mr: Le Roy had
paid due honour to your Bill for five hundred pounds
this Currancy. He has since accepted the other for Two
Hundred Pounds payable when in Cash for the Net
Proceeds of Goods sold on your Account. When that will
be, you & he must best know. I shall give Mr: Temple
the proper information. I have no Letter or Bill this
Post from Mr: Chew you mention to be sent. I am

New York 16th Sept: 1765

ROBERT TEMPLE ESQ:

SIR

By the last post I acquainted you that Mr: Le Roy
had paid Mr: Mumfords Bill on him Value five hundred

pounds this Currency for your use. Mr: Mumford has since drawn another on him for Two Hundred Pounds like Currancy, "payable when in Cash for the Net Proceeds of Goods sold on his Account" which Mr: LeRoy has likewise accepted but the time of payment remains of course indifinite. Whenever the Bill is dischargd you shall know it. Mr: Mumford says Mr: Chew was to send a Bill this post for £400 more for your use, but it is not come, nor have I a Letter from either of them. I am very truely

New York 20th Sept: 1765

FENWYCK BULL ESQ:

SIR

By mistake a friend of mine has desird me to send Fifty Barrels of rough Rice for Lord Holderness to be deliverd in London before Christmas addressed to his Lordship in Arlington Street. As this Colony produces no such thing I must beg to transferr the Order to you to execute, since it is out of my power to do it. The Amount you will be pleasd to charge to me, favouring me with a Copy of the Invoice you send Home. By Barrels I suppose is meant your half Tierces of about four Bushels each, we have a variety of wooden Vessels calld in general Barrels, so that with us the Term has no determinate meaning without prefixing the Name of the Commodity they are to contain & generally usd for, as Flour, Pork, Bread, &ca: which are all different. I am

Via Philadelphia

New York 23d Sept: 1765

MR: WILLIAM BRYMER

SIR

I wrote you 29th July in Company & 3d August singly by Capt: Simonton, who carryd the Law Books with the Account amounting to £30 Currency. Should you want

any more of these kind of Wares, I beleive you would find it cheaper to be supplyd from England directly. I have your favour of 8th Aug: to acknowledge addressed to Mr: Delancey & myself. If Simonton gets safe all your Suppys will be favourably thrown in, & we are glad to know that they will be very sufficient. We have not yet heard a Syllable of Mr: Drummonds Arrival. The £4.9.3 Hallifax Money accru'd in the solicitation of Payne & Bonfields Bond is passd to your Credit with many thanks amounting to £7.2.8 Currency or 17 5/6 Dollars. I am very truely

We have Letters from the Contractors to 13th July but nothing New, they approve of all we have done

Per post

New York 24th Sept: 1765

MR: JOHN MCINTOSH JUN:

SIR

I duely receiv'd from Doctor Bruce your Letter & Documents relating to Messrs: Mercer & Ramsay.¹⁸⁸ Major Small it seems not being ready to leave England had committed them to the Doctor's Care.

Upon inquiry I found Mr: Mercer was gone to England in Capt: Berton, his Partner Mr: Ramsay tells me, with an Intent to adjust entirely your long contested Affair, a little unlucky on your side he had not embarkd something sooner or you postpond your power a few Weeks longer, it would have savd you a great deal of trouble & Expence, but even as it is I am really glad you have an Opportunity of settling every thing in person which can be done much better than by a Substitute, tho' you have taken a great deal of pains to throw all the Lights upon the Affair it would possibly admit of. Interest seems to be the main Object in Controversy. Next, your Shipping some Cargo's of Hardwood &c.a: from the

¹⁸⁸ Robert Mercer and John Ramsay. See Wm. M. MacBean, *Biographical Register of St. Andrew's Society of the State of N. Y.*, I, 61-63.

improper Markets, & contrary as they say to Agreements, these Points once settled the Matter is very easy. Mr: Ramsay tells me his Partner has carryd along with him every Paper & Testimony necessary to an Adjustment final & complete, so that no interruption occurs to me that can in the nature of things arise to prevent it, of which I sincerely congratulate you as you seem to have the Affair so much at heart. My regards to my old Friend Mr: Drummond, I hope he continues well. I shall always be glad to pay a regard to his recommendations & am

My compliments to Capt. Mackintosh, I will write him at a little more leisure.

Per the Hyde packet

New York 23d Sept. 1765

JAMES NAPIER ESQ.

(abstract)

Welcom'd him from Scotland, whither he us'd to say Nothing but his Majors Commands shod carry him. People here unwilling to part with Mr. Monckton, whose disinterestedness, generosity, candor & Justice, was not to be met with in every Governor. Mr. Moore a West Indian, whose Interests clashes with the Northern Colonys & may create a jealousy, still Pepper Pot may make a good Ruler. Sir Harry S. here he saw all the Riots at Boston. People's Antipathy to the Stamp Act & Stamp Men probably there will not be Specie enough to carry it into execution, added to the Dutys, which leave the Colonys by going to Canada first, thence to Brittain. J. Allen just left us, Gen. Burton well & jolly, discord enough below. Partys to L. I. &c: Fish, Plover, Wildfowl in season, come & partake. What is to be done with all his Liquor, One Pipe exceeding good. Shall send him G. Monckton, Coll. Amherst some Apples. Tell the Colonel his Indian Corn 50 Barrels on board of Richards. The Stamp mans Affair from Maryland. Synagogue not very well. My Compliments to all friends. My family all

well & send them his regards, all growing up & alter'd. As Coll. Robertson is in England you will think of your Rhode Island Demand.

Per the Hyde packet

New York 24th Sept. 1765

THE HONORABLE GEN. MONCKTON

(abstract) ¹⁸⁹

His farewell lik'd less than any thing he had ever done, the Colony being unwilling to change. The Contrast the old G[entleman] has made he is oblig'd to him for, as he will be undesignedly, for his clearing all the Loaves & Fishes off the Board. Impolitick appointing Mr. M[oore] as the West India & N. A. Interest is allways jarring. &c: The Prints to go in Richards. The Pr[inters] all mad. The people of the Colonys extremely disturb'd. Not Species enough to carry the Acts into execution, what must be the Consequences. Even rescinding our great Demand for Eng. Cloathing will be felt & occasion uneasiness at Home. The Mayor's & Speaker's Letters come to hand, he will hear from them in due time, They will contrive to have the representation, since they cant have the Life. The Ass[embly] meet 15th Oct. The old Man sincerely wishes for his Successor, since he must come, terrifyd at mobs which to be sure are wretched Masters. The foolish arming of the Fort very ungracious. Pollords Bill on Duncan not paid, he & Coll. Vaughan inform'd of it & cautiond. Wrote 11th & 19th Aug. Nothing since recd. or paid. To give me hints if any sho'd occur on the final settlement to be made with his H[ono]r. How am I to dispose of his things in my Custody, not that I mean it as a discharge from his Service, but as a Measure now to be pursu'd without discovery that it is his Intentions

¹⁸⁹ The original letter is printed in its entirety in *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, 4th ser., X, 575-78.

to return no more. Hop'd a Continuance of his friendship & his Commands, was highly sensible of the many particular favours bestow'd on me & sho'd resent them to the utmost of my power. Shall learn to persecute him no more with such long Letters, was really asham'd to look over all I had wrote. The old M: not open'd about Mr. M[oore]. Letter to him & the Council. Post Masters Account £47.1.5. lumping matter. My respects to his family & to all friends & to beleive me with truth

Per the Hyde Packet

New York 24th Sept: 1765

MESSRS: LASSELLES & DALING

GENTLEMEN

I am favourd with yours of 29th June with my Account Current which shall be attended to at a little leisure, but I dont in the least doubt all is right. Your Dwarf Funds are not at all encouraging we can do better with our Money here, for which reason I propose at least to stop my Interest where it is, if not diminish it, & therefore beg you would not make any more purchases with the growing Interest but leave me occasionally to draw for it. In a few days I shall begin with a Bill for about £250 Sterling. I am

Per the Hyde Packet

New York 24th Sept: 1765

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

I was lately by Capt: Richards favourd with your Letter of 27th June & sent to Mr: Delancey the inclosed containing his Account, since which I have not seen him to know how it stands. His Son Stephen was by Mr: Colden appointed to the Clerks Office at Albany vacant

by the Death of Mr: Marsh, who was likewise Secretary of Indian Affairs, as had been the practice in One Commission, but upon Marsh's Death, Mr: Colden and Sir Will: Johnson took each their recommendations to the different Offices, Stephen has wrote frequently to his Brother Peter to attend to his Solicitation & obtain the Commission or Confirmation as he hears from other hands the Government have approv'd of Mr: Colden's Appointment, so much as not to admit of any other Application, declaring it to be his, but he can get no Answer from his Brother & has press'd me to desire the favour of you to employ some proper person to take the necessary Steps to finish the Affair, in which you will much oblige the Family, as it will be a great Service done the Young Man; possibly Peter if he is reminded may be able with some good Advice to do the Business, if not some able hand it's desir'd may be employ'd, which is entirely submitted to you. We expect soon our new Governor, if the unsettled System at Home dont retard or entirely stop him. We know his Character pretty well, which is not bad as a Governor, but the People will be more jealous of him than of an Appointment impartial & disinterested, as they have allways look'd with an evil Eye on the West Indian Interest, as clashing with & oppressive of their own. We have Letters from England to 14th August the Mail of that Date was stopt after the Packet had fallen down for sailing, supposd to proceed from the Changes in the Ministry which are numerous indeed & past Conception. Whatever Confusions the late Sett occasion'd in their own Country, they have taken care those in this shall keep pace with them, the oldest Man among us never saw the like. I am

Per the Hyde packet

New York 28th Sept: 1765

COLL: WILL. AMHERST

DEAR SIR

By a Merchant Ship from hence 17th Aug: I acquainted you with the ill prospect I had of procuring you the Indian Corn you had order'd for Lord Holderness, but being more successfull than I expected, by the dint of Money, that irresistable charm, I am enabled to send by this Conveyance Capt: Richards of the Snow Amelia, an Invoice & Bill of Lading for the whole quantity, committed to your direction, as I don't know how to make my way to his Lordship. The common Price of this Grain you may reckon in general from 2/6 to 3/ per Bush. this Currency or 18 d: to 20 d: Sterling, all other Charges pretty much the same as this, by which you may form a pretty distinct Idea of what it will stand in, deliver'd on your side the Water. We shall expect soon our New Governor, the first we have had of the Pepper Pot Breed, time will tell us how the hot Mixture agrees with the cold, if there should be too great a portion of the Cayenne, it will set the Body to politick on Fire in the ill Habit it is, which God forbid, for we have both real & apparent Evils enough in Conscience allready, without adding to them. God bless you, dont forget my respects to the General particularly. I wrote Gen. Monckton & my friend Napier four days ago by the Packet, Billy Smith tells me Mr: Boone is well and unaffected, I mean for the worse, by the tumult the State was got into. My Compliments & good wishes attend him. Col: Barré I hear was on an excursion to France, these upside Downs I should imagine will bring him no Ill either, they talk of his being one of the joint Treasurers of Ireland. I have desird Mr: Fenwyck Bull our friend Boone's Agent to send the Rice from Carolina.

Per Capt. Richards

New York 28th Sept: 1765

MESSRS: LASSELLES & DALING
GENTLEMEN

Agreable to the Notice given you in the above Letter I yesterday drew a Bill in favour of Lawrence Reade for £250 Sterling payable at Forty days Sight & remain
Per Capt. Richards

New York 4 Oct: 1765

SIR WILLIAM BAKER
SIR

About an hour ago I recevd your favour of 8th August by the Packet, and am verry sorry for Peter Delancy's Imprudence tho' I must own from the Samples I had seen, I never expected any good from his Stay in England, it seems to me to be the most ready way to bring the branch of one of our north American famyly's, with the very moderate fortunes they possess and the Industry that is of course required to being them into Life, to Destruction. Capt. Cochran going off in a hurry & not being able to collect Silver or Gold has importuned me to give a small Bill to him for £50 Sterling, which I have done and beg you will be so good as to pay it; I have not a moment's Time alowed me, but to subscribe myself with great Respect,

P. S. Evil after Evil is falling upon the Collony's, it is now confidently reported, that Cuninghams unconstititutional Appeal is admitted in England.

Per Capt. Ashfield

New York 12th Oct. 1765

SIR WILLIAM BAKER
SIR

I have nothing to add to the foregoing on Business. An Order is *indeed* come from his Majesty in Council to admit the Appeal, tho' Execution is issu'd on Kelly the

Securitys Effects, so that now every Subject's Estate & Property in the Colony is by a Stroke of the Pen taken out of the hands of a Jury for a Sum above Three Hundred Pounds Sterling & committed to the Mercy of a Governor & three or four Councillors who act by Instructions & hold their Seats at pleasure, with this *tender* reserve that either party in a Case of Five Hundred may Appeal to King in Council, who it's impossible can see hear or understand Facts with the Advantage a Jury & Court upon the Spot has, or can in the nature of things be supposd to attend to them with that Care & Circumspection a Jury does. How the Matter will be conducted on this side the Water time must shew, but it seems to be allmost impracticable the Genius of our Proceedings are so diametrically opposite, the Supreme Court can send up nothing but the record, all the rest, which is every thing, must be De Novo, Strange Work, what can be the meaning of such Doctrine, or what is America at last to expect. Must it be intirely govern'd by Courts of Admiralty & ignorant State Councils, if it must, 'twill be the worst System on Earth at such a distance too from releif. I allways am with great respect

N. B. Mentioned the Congress, that they would do nothing heated & wo'd speak the Sense of their Constituents.

Per J. Johnson Esq.

New York 12th October 1765

MR: JOHN RIDDELL of Virginia

SIR

I could not resist so fair an Opportunity as offers by Mr: Murray to trouble you with a few Lines in answer to your favour of 11th Ult:, the Contents of which shall be duely observd. Produce is very high indeed & Bills still higher with you, which are forbidding Circumstances to an intimate intercourse between the two Colonys, pardon me for calling your Dominion by so diminutive

an Epithet. I need not recommend Mr: Murray to you he will sufficiently recommend himself, & possibly upon the Subject of Commerce you may strike out something that may in future be of some Use to us all. I am very truly

Per Mr. Murray

New York 12th October 1765

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

I am to thank you for your obliging favour of 9th Aug: only, Our New Governor, Davis & all the rest being still away.

Capt: Kemble I have told you has got his Commission, when I receive my Account it will enable me to count the Costs. Your Dwarf Funds are become shabby things & like all other Dwarfs will probably remain little & crippled & be in State what the other is in Nature. If to oblige your good old Father I should draw on you for Fifty Pounds or something like it for your use you may trust to his probity & charge me for the Value without any further Notice. I desir'd you on a like occasion 28th Ult: to transferr to his or your Use One Hundred & Fifty Pounds Sterling, I never can resist his Application, so much is due to our Friendship, almost time immemorial to me. He sends by Sir William Johnson's Son & Heir the Papers daily publishing in which you will see a great deal of impudent Stuff & Nonsense calculated as it were to irritate a Wound that is too sore already, if not gangreen'd. The Deputys that are met from the different Colonys in Council here will if they do any thing at all, make I beleive a decent & proper representation enough, but the difference is so wide it will be hard to steer an even middle Course. My Compliments to the Family. Richa¹⁹⁰ says young Sir Will. (tho' his Name happens

¹⁹⁰ Richa Franks, daughter of Jacob Franks of N. Y., and sister of Naphtali and Moses Franks of London. See "The Chapters of Isaac the Scribe" by Samuel Oppenheim, in *Pub. Amer. Jewish Hist. Soc.*, XXII, 39-46.

to be John) will be a feast to your Brother as a pure Exotick, he appears to be a pretty modest Young Fellow. I am allways

I have wish'd you joy so often allready it would be a work of super-errogation now. My sincere good Wishes however to your belovd partner, may she bring you a Numerous & happy progeny.

Per the Harriot packet

New York 12th October 1765

THE HON: GENERAL MONCKTON

(abstract) ¹⁹¹

No Letter since mine of 24th Ult: Ask'd him whether he had not a right to half of the Salary & Perquisites till Sir H[enry] M[oore] qualify'd. The old man would be tough if he took it 'tother way. He communicated Mr: Moncktons whole Letter to the C[ouncil] which was gratefully receivd. The Assembly farther pro[rogue]d to 29th Inst:, tho' the 15th they had been pro[rogue]d to meet on Business, pay day would come & the longer the worse. C[unningham]'s Appeal granted hard to say how it will go on, came like a Thunderbolt upon us, inclosd to C[unningham]'s Agent, quite silent about our dispute on the Subject here—tell Coll: Barré our Apprehensions are better founded than he imagin'd, & that Doctrine of that kind could *as yet* be adopted in E—d. Congress met, the people good, and probably their Deliberations would be sensible & moderate enough. Let Coll: Amherst know the Indian Corn was on board Richards. Sir W. J[ohnson]'s Son had the papers whom I recommended to him & to Napier. My Compliments to all Friends. I wrote my Friend N[apier] by the last Packet. How we panted for the New Governor.

Per J. Johnson Esq.

¹⁹¹ The original letter is printed in its entirety in *Collections of the Mass. Hist. Soc.*, 4th ser., vol. X.

New York 13th Oct: 1765

MR: NAPIER

MY DEAR SIR

(abstract)

The Packet detain'd for want of hands. Recommend Mr: Johnson to him who goes under the Countenance of Lord A. Gordon. Mr: Colden inform'd me his Patent should be finish'd to save the Stamps, or the uncertainty we might be in for want of them, the Stamp Man having resign'd & it was uncertain what Step would be taken in Consequence of it, for we kept pace with them at Home in Confusion. His Land in general Mr: C. says good, it ought to be so, it will cost some Money in Fees as usual, tell us what we shall do with it.

All his Friends well, & as much his as ever, say what I ought to mine.

Per Mr. Johnson

New York 14th Oct: 1765

MR: WILLIAM BRYMER

SIR

The Post brought me your favour of 15th Ult: with Mr: Drummond's 2d Bill on Sir Sam. Fludyer & Partners for £150 Sterling dated 3d Sept: amounting at $\frac{4}{8}$ the Dollar to £160.14.3 Nova Scotia Currency. Your Letter of 7th Ult: referr'd to inclosing the Account Sales of my Adventure of Rum & Sugars has not yet reachd me, but as our Intercourse has been allways very safe hitherto, no doubt it will, tho' it may linger a little on the Road, of which you shall be inform'd as soon as it does. In the mean time beleive me truly

Per post

New York 14th Oct: 1765

CAPT: JOHN CLARKE

SIR

If Mrs: Ann Clarke ¹⁹² draws upon me for £15 Sterling on your Account I will pay it for your honour, without any regard to Pollards Draft on me, the Man must be surely mad to draw upon me for Money when he knows I have not a Shilling of his in my hands, nor ever had. He has it's true remitted me some Money, but every Shilling is for Account of his Friend & Benefactor Gen: Monckton who had paid much more for him in England & to whom I have remitted every farthing. Your Letter receivd a few days ago for Barbados shall be taken Care of. I am

Per post

New York 14th October 1765

ROBERT TEMPLE ESQ:

SIR

I receiv'd your favour of 23d Ult: Mr: LeRoy paid the 1st Inst: £107.5.—Currency in part of Mr: Mumfords £200 Bill on him this & the £500 is all I have receivd, nor have I heard any thing farther from either Mr: Mumford or Mr: Chew about any other Moneys. Mr: Bayard is mounting. Yours Sir

Per Capt. Bayard

New York 21st Oct: 1765

MR: THOMAS MUMFORD

SIR

Mr: LeRoy has paid £107.5.— On Account of the last Bill & says he will soon discharge the remainder. If Mr: Foxcraft pays me Four Hundred Pounds, it is well, but hitherto I have had no intimation of it, nor so much as

¹⁹² Ann (Furneau or Furness) Clarke, widow of John Clarke, and mother of Capt. John Clarke Jr.

know where he is. I sent your Letter to Mrs: Holland, in answer to which she desires me to tell you, she begs you would consider her Situation. I am Sir

Per post

New York 21st Oct: 1765

MR: WILLIAM BRYMER

SIR

An hour or two after I had acknowledgd the Receipt, by the last Post, of your favour of 15th Sept:, the preceeding of the 7th of the same Month referr'd to, came safe to hand with the Account Sales of my small Adventure to your Address & the first of Mr: Drummond's Sett of Bills for £150 St. With regard to the great trouble you have been at with my burthensome Sugar & Rum, I think you have carryd your disinterestedness too far, a Commission ought in justice to be chargd & I am still ready to allow it. And if you will take this place in your way Home, as you certainly ought, I can have the pleasure of settling it in person. 'Twill be an incredible History of yourself, when you get to England, to say you have been such a Space of time in America & have seen Nothing but (pardon me) an obscure Corner of it. The Bill for the Jason's Hire is accepted & Mr: Franks says would be paid in course. I am very truely

Per post

New York 26th Oct: 1765

THE HON: GENERAL MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you 12th Inst: by Sir Will. Johnsons Son who saild in the Harriot Packet & carryd the (wild) Papers.

The Congress is broke up, their Transactions not publickly known as decency forbids they should, how their Addresses will be receivd you are the best Judge. I take their resolves to be pretty much upon the Philadelphia

Plan with some elucidations, I mean the resolves of that Colony. People here are kept quiet but are thoroughly dissatisfyd, the Stamps are safe in the Fort that came by Davis,¹⁹³ if they are issud Confusion will ensue I am sure. If they are not 'twill be as bad if not worse, so you see our unhappy Situation. The Goverment wants Weight & the good Folks at Home may thank themselves for it, where there is neither Love, Fear or common Confidence to bind, what must be the Consequence. Pollards Affairs with you are not alter'd since my last. Coll: Vaughan here, I beleive for the Winter, he probably will tell you. I inform'd you some time ago, the People for what they call the Scots Patent had given me their Bond for your Moity of the Fees Value £293.15.— dated 17th March 1764. they have since paid it with One Year & Seven Months Interest due thereon added, being £32.10. this you have Credit for & are charg'd with Colin Drummond's Bill on Sir Sam: Fludyer & Partners for £150 Sterling 85 per Ct: Exchange dated at Quebec 3d Ult: amounting to £277.10. Currency. Capt: Sherriffe wanted your Credit of £100 Sterling & you stand chargd with it £185 Currency. I have let him have what other Money he wanted, he deserves it. The old Gentleman has paid me no Money lately for you, had he not been in the Fort he would I beleive scarcely have kept it so long. I shall remit as I receive & render you an Account soon, finally if I can, but that I suspect will not be in my power. My regards to all Friends. Beleive me theirs & yours

Per the Ordinance Transport

¹⁹³ The first consignment of stamps was carried in the ship *Edward*, Capt. William Davis, which reached N. Y. Tuesday evening, Oct. 22, 1765. Holt's *N. Y. Gazette*, Oct. 24, 1765.

New York 7th Nov. 1765

JAMES NAPIER ESQ.

DEAR SIR

(Abstract)

Recd. his Letter of 14th Sept. glad of the recovery of his health. Wrote him 19th Aug. 23d Sept. & 13th Oct. His patent pass'd Fees not yet known. Mr. Adair may depend on our assistance in getting his Land. Indian affairs in a good Way. Croghan returnd thro' the Lakes. Pondiac chang'd & employ'd.

A Long Account of our late Riot, our Situation & prospect both bad, if Sir H. M[oore] persists in enforcing the Stamps violent will be the Confusion. Better Men must be sent from Home to fill offices or all will end in Anarchy. Inclos'd Mr. Monckton's 2d Bill for £150 Sterling to him. Mentiond 2 Barrels apples for him, 2 for Coll. Amherst & 2 for the General. Let Mr. Boone know I had recd. & sho'd answer his Letter. Wrote the General by Doctor Gill & sent the Papers. My family well & send him their good wishes.

Per Capt. Davis

New York 9th Nov: 1765

MR: MOSES FRANKS

DEAR SIR

I shall not trouble you with a Copy of my last by the Harriot Packet of 12th Ult: but trust to time & chance to dispose of it as they please. Your favours I am now to acknowledge of 14th Aug: by Davis & 13th Sept. by this Packet. With regard to your Contract Affairs, I have little to say but what has been said in Company by this Conveyance. If your Colleague has not made his old Acquaintance his friend, while he had him, he cannot sure be surprizd if it's not to be done on this Side the Water, where we are at Arms length, time will shew. For my own part I allways go to the Fountain Head, the Waters generally grow muddyer as they go down, there

we are sure to meet with Civility & Candor, but the Management is so unintelligible at Home it would puzzle a Newton. My warmest Wish is that the P. may be dissolv'd, tho whether even that will help America I dont know, the difference is so wide, God knows, the Tempers of People are so alterd by the frightfull Stamp Act, tis beyond Conception, so violent & so universal, & what adds to the Evil, there are so many distress'd, desperate Inhabitants in the Colonys whose Safety & Subsistance consists in Confusion. For what has pass'd here I reffer you to your own family. I shall only observe that Goverment will never recover any Strength here, till it is in other hands, & in general will be loosing Ground as the Colonys increase, till other people are sent out to fill the most interesting Officers, than such as are fit for nothing at Home, a little more tenderness & Attention too must be shewn them, their Treatment is grown quite too bald. The Appeal for Instance. I allways am

Dont think that same Knot is indissoluble, it would be too terrifying. Providence in mercy has reserv'd the power of dissolving it as Alexander did the Gordian Knot, by cutting the thread.

Per the Hallifax Packet

New York 9th Nov: 1765

THE HON: GEN: MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I desir'd our friend Napier by Davis two days ago to acquaint you that I had wrote the 12th Ult: by Sir Will: Johnson's Son & the 26th by an Ordinance Transport desiring him at the same time to deliver you the 2d of the Sett of Bills I then inclosd for £150 Sterling drawn by Colin Drummond on Sir Sam. Fludyer & Partners indors'd for your use. Davis carryd with him a half Dozen Barrels of Pippins for Yourself, Coll: Amherst & Napier

which I recommended to the Doctor's Care, hush, what have I said.

No Money receivd from Pollard or you, neither the Bill on Forman of the Artillery he remitted for £140 odd Pounds, nor the other on Duncan for a Hundred & Ninety odd Pounds paid, tho' neither have been neglected. I am apprehensive he has not Talents for Business, too soft or too complying, equally bad.

The Old Gentleman has had no time if he had inclination to pay me any thing for you, his hands have been so full, owing to his own impolitick Conduct, which is bred in the Bone, but allowing that a more conciliating Temper & a less ungracious Character would have prevented half the Confusion, the State of the Colonys in general & this (now) in particular is become very serious, of which the Stamp Act is the foundation & that Once remov'd would calm the Storm very soon, but while at Home so little Attention is paid to their Interests, so little delicacy in filling the Offices wherein Life, Property & good Government are concerned, such Strokes as the Appeal at the most essential Libertys of a Subject & carrying their Estates from Jurys to a submissive Court of Admiralty, they never can or will be easy till they are either persuaded or compell'd to forget they are entitled to the rights of Englishmen. The injudicious Question about the power of Parliament no prudent Man would meddle with, but among Friends as a meer Matter of Speculation. Rash conceited Priggs & Printers have done it, but are blamd by all Men of Reflection, yet it has become so general, Notice probably will be taken of it & the more the pitty there should be any occasion, the less is said on the Subject the better on this Side, 'tis too delicate if not presumptuous, for my own part I really beleive some New Constitution will be form'd in time between the Mother Country & the Colonys. Nothing similar to the present State offers in History; that there should be a supreme power lodged somewhere seems reasonable, but as the Colonys before a great Number of Years are elaps'd will exceed the Mother Country in

Numbers, would it be equally reasonable, the Property of the Majority should be disposd of by the Minority at meer Will & pleasure, especially when it is their Interest to throw the Burthen off their own Shoulders upon those of their absent, unrepresented, & of course unheard, fellow Subjects, must not, unless the Nature of Man is chang'd, such a Government end in Oppression, then what follows.

Mentiond Mr: Delany's ¹⁹⁴ Pamphlet which I would send him, desir'd him to thank Mr: Charles for his Letter which I would answer soon, at present no occasion, the Committee wrote him fully, referr'd the General to him & to Sir H. S. Gov. M. cannot think of issuing the S[tamps] & what is to be done without them equally perplexing. Inclosd Coll: Vaughans Letter. Circular Letters to call the Assembly 15th Inst: but was sure the Governor would not meet them, the People so much incensd at his Adm[inistration] where would he go to when he departed the Fort.

Per the Hallifax Packet

New York 11th Nov: 1765

MR: EDWARD POLLARD

SIR

I have inform'd you before that Stirling's Bill on Duncan was not accepted & that I waited your Orders what to do with it. Tis to this day neither accepted or paid nor any likelihood of either. Major Duncan says Stirling has not remitted him Effects to do it. Nothing is yet paid of the Artillery Bill but Mr: Forman told me he beleiv'd Sixty or Seventy Pounds of it might probably be paid & that was all & you were well off, so as I have before advis'd, take Care how you part with your Money here-

¹⁹⁴ Daniel Dulany Jr., whose anonymous pamphlet *Considerations on the Propriety of imposing Taxes in the British Colonies, for the Purpose of raising a Revenue, by Act of Parliament*, was first printed in Annapolis, in Oct., 1765, and was re-printed in N. Y. by John Holt. L. C. Wroth, *History of Printing in Colonial Maryland*, 223-225; M. C. Tyler, *Literary History of the American Revolution*, I, 101-113; Evans' *American Bibliography*, No. 9958.

after, be sure you are safe. I recd. yours of 13th Oct: with the Draft on Forman for £13.13.9½ Sterling at 4/8 the Dollar & a £3.5. Jersey Bill which shall be applyd to pay your Draft to Capt: Clarke for £15 Sterling & the remainder passd to your Credit but dont give me any more of these Job's I have not time to attend to them. I am

Inclos'd to Mr. Monier

New York 19th Nov: 1765

JOHN INGLIS ESQ:

SIR

I have spoke to the Colonel, who professes a ready inclination to do every thing regarding the Certificate that can reasonably be askd, but what is *reasonable* when we come to the Point will be the Rock I am afraid we shall split upon, he says the Certificate must be alter'd to the disadvantage of the Contract, if it is alterd at all, for as it now stands the Deposits at the Posts is worded & was construd much in it's favour till Mr: Greenville went out, who meant to favour the Contractors, but the present Gentlemen of the Treasury discover'd his Intention before the thing was carryd through & intend to make this very Affair, in their Attack upon him, an instance of his *Oeconomy*. You may imagine from hence if the Matter is become so publick what caution they will use here in coming into any Material Alterations, he says the Contractors behavd very *cunningly* in endeavouring to get the late Minister who was disposd to serve them, to put a finishing Stroke to it, before he made his Exit, but his political Death hurry'd on too fast to suffer him to do it, & his Successors as I have said discover'd the Cloven Foot. If you dont choose to come yourself send me the disapprovd Certificate with the two others A & B propos'd in the Room of it, & I will try what can be done towards working the Miracle. I remain

Per Coll. Croghan

New York 22d Nov: 1765

SIR WILLIAM BAKER

SIR

My last was 12th Ult: by Sir Will: Johnson's Son, I have since your favour of 11th Sept: to acknowledge by the Packet, & two days ago arrivd our Young Stamp Inspector¹⁹⁵ with Jacobson. He is very much oblig'd to his Friends for procuring him the Office at Home, but it has thrown his relations here into a sad Dilemma, to know what to say to it, so odious is the Person of every Officer in America who has any thing to say to the Execution of the Act, fix but the Term to any Mans Name & he becomes a Scare Crow. Here it would certainly be more than his Life is worth, to attempt to execute the Office, & besides would lay the Interest of every One of his Name in the Dust, but possibly his Department may be less sanguine, however at all Events if he keeps it, the Family will never hear the last of it. The Father seems pretty calm about his Expences, and is preparing to reimburse you, which is not an easy Matter now in the Confusion we are, added to the real Scarcity of Money, besides the Young Man has rather exceeded his Father's Circumstances, considering his numerous Family of Eleven Children.¹⁹⁶ I inclose you the Governors of the College's Bill on Mr: Tricothick for £250 Sterling which please to make use of till you hear farther from me. I propose it for Mr: Delancey's Use if he approves of it. Dont Protest it if by chance any unforeseen Difficulty should occur. I remain very truely, Sir

Per the Ordinance ship Raven Capt. Scott

¹⁹⁵ Peter DeLancey, Jr., appointed one of the inspectors of stamps, reached N. Y. in the ship *Hope*, Capt. Christian Jacobson, on Nov. 19, 1765. He publicly resigned the office on Nov. 27, and his signed statement was printed in Holt's *N. Y. Gazette* on Nov. 28, 1765.

¹⁹⁶ The names of the children of Peter and Elizabeth (Colden) DeLancey are given in Edwin R. Purple's *The Colden Family* (N. Y. 1873), 14-16.

New York 22d Nov: 1765

THE HON: GEN. MONCKTON

DEAR SIR

I wrote you by an Ordinance Store Ship to London 26th Ult: & by the Hallifax Packet 9th Inst: Nothing New in your Affairs, No Money either receivd or paid. I have sent by this Ordinance Transport Two Barrels of Pippins, Two Keggs of Pickled Peppers & a Pipe of your Madeira Cased, to the Care of Mr: Bard an Officer in the 22d. I have many reasons for sending the Wine & wish you had order'd both Pipes away while our Port was open & it could be done safely, at present Nothing is done in the Commercial Way, the Stamps cannot possibly be distributed, & if Vessels should be permitted by this & the other Government's to go without them, tis uncertain what Treatment they may receive abroad, & yet go they must at all Hazards, or Ireland must be without it's necessary Supply of Seed, the West Indies without their Food, His Majestys Fleets & Garrisons without their Supplies &ca: &ca: This I am inform'd is a safe & a good Conveyance, the Wine will be subject as usual to the Dutys & every other Circumstance easy, which chiefly tempted me to send it.

(Abstract) ¹⁹⁷ Gov: M. easy, well bred, sensible & experienc'd in Business, the Change very agreeable could not come amiss. Question about the Stamps & dismantling the Fort, Unanimous, the old Man present & joining, All the Cannon spik'd, Strange Scenes we have had, Madness & folly triumphant. Sir. H. S. sends the Papers, all but the Speech & C's address which are enclos'd. Will probably hear from the Assembly the Law had sent him a detail of our late Disorders, by the Packet. My regards to Napier, Coll: Amherst & Barré, &ca: &ca:

Per the Ordinance Ship Raven Capt. Scott

¹⁹⁷ The original letter is printed in its entirety in *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, 4th. ser., X.

New York 2d Dec: 1765

MR: EDWARD POLLARD

SIR

I have wrote you that I should pay your Order to Capt: Clarke. Let him know I have receivd Directions from his Mother about it. Major Duncan has just sent down a Bill on the Pay Master of the Works at Niagara to make good Stirlings Bill on him you remitted to me, but as Mr: Hutchins the said Pay Master is at Fort Pitt, I can say nothing to the Payment of it till he returns which is uncertain, but I suppose it may be good. I am

inclos'd to Mr. Monier

New York 9th Dec: 1765

ROBERT TEMPLE ESQ:

I wrote you a Line or two 14th Oct: by Capt: Bayard. Mr: LeRoy has since paid £92.15.— remaining on the £200 Bill, this brings me Seven Hundred Pounds in your Debt which waits your Directions, & is all I have receivd or heard any thing about of late. But if you have an inclination to make me more your Debtor I should be obligd to you if you would pay Mrs: Ann Clarke of Salem £15 Sterling at 4/8 Sterling the Dollar amounting to Sixty Four Dollars & a Quarter as near as may be, & I will pay you this honestly with the rest. Let the Lady know I receivd her Letter, she wont I presume insist upon paying Postage for an Answer, if you do but pay the Bill on Sight.

N. B. The rest relates to the times.

Per post

New York 22d Dec: 1765

MR: MOSES FRANKS

SIR

You must arrange this among your hard Bargains to pay a shilling for a Letter not worth a Groat. It shall have the meritt however of thanking you for the favor done me by the packet of the 10th Oct. & another your father tells me you intend me by way of Philadelphia which I am yet to receive.

We cannot call Gamble to an Account by Law, as at present we have no Law, "then mention his poverty & say". You have been allready to generous to him or Compassion woud excite me still to intercede for farther Mercy to an old, able Servant fallen like Adam & undone forever by a single transgression, but I will say no more.

"Then mention Davys affairs well, that Department profitable, Inglis coming here for a change of Certificates, Mr. B——k Master told me this Certificate had been cunningly offer'd at Home. Army much streighted for Money." Your wise ones who know Nothing of the Colonys & if it was not an Irishcism, I woud say, are regardless of what they do know, not content with what the Colonys have got, want to ruin them for what they have not got, very like the old Woman dissatisfy'd with an Egg a day killd the poor Hen to have them all at Once. Silver & Gold tis impossible for us to preserve without ruining the Mother Country by a disuse of her Manufactorys & paper that we were as carefull of as the Apple of our Eyes & was as Necessary for our well being, they have *judiciously* suppressed in effect, without one reason that we ever heard of assignd for so doing. For it neither depreciated, nor if it did, coud One English Creditor be affected by it, because the Debtor is obligd to make good to him the Value of a pound Stirling whatever be the Exchange or denomination of our paper Currency, for which too every Estate in the Colony real & personal is bound & therefore all Men of Substance attentively Watch Emissions & take care of the periods

for sinking. If other Colonys have abus'd this trust must the innocent suffer for the Guilty, were the people of Brittain from a guilty daring minister down to a sneaking excise man, to receive such measure, what woud become of them. But all these things are now come to a Crisis, the Die is thrown & we must hope the best. But—— If America is to be governd & their Lives & propertys dispos'd of by people sent out meerly because they had no Character or Credit at home or are a burthen upon some great Man. If their property is to be thrown into dependent Courts of Admiralty & their Causes to be carry'd at pleasure to an obscure Corner of his Majestys Dominions, calld Hallifax, wither they cannot attend them. If Verdicts from Jurys are to be overruled by a Governor & a Council appointed at will & of course all mens Estates lay at Mercy. If internal Taxes are to be laid by fellow Subjects who know Nothing of their Circumstances & whose Interest it will be to make them beasts of burthen, & it is meer mercy if they do not. I say if this is to be the fate of America it cant surely be worth their Contention, who shall be their Masters. God bless you the Subject is ungratefull. I have nothing to add but that I am

Per the Cumberland packet

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